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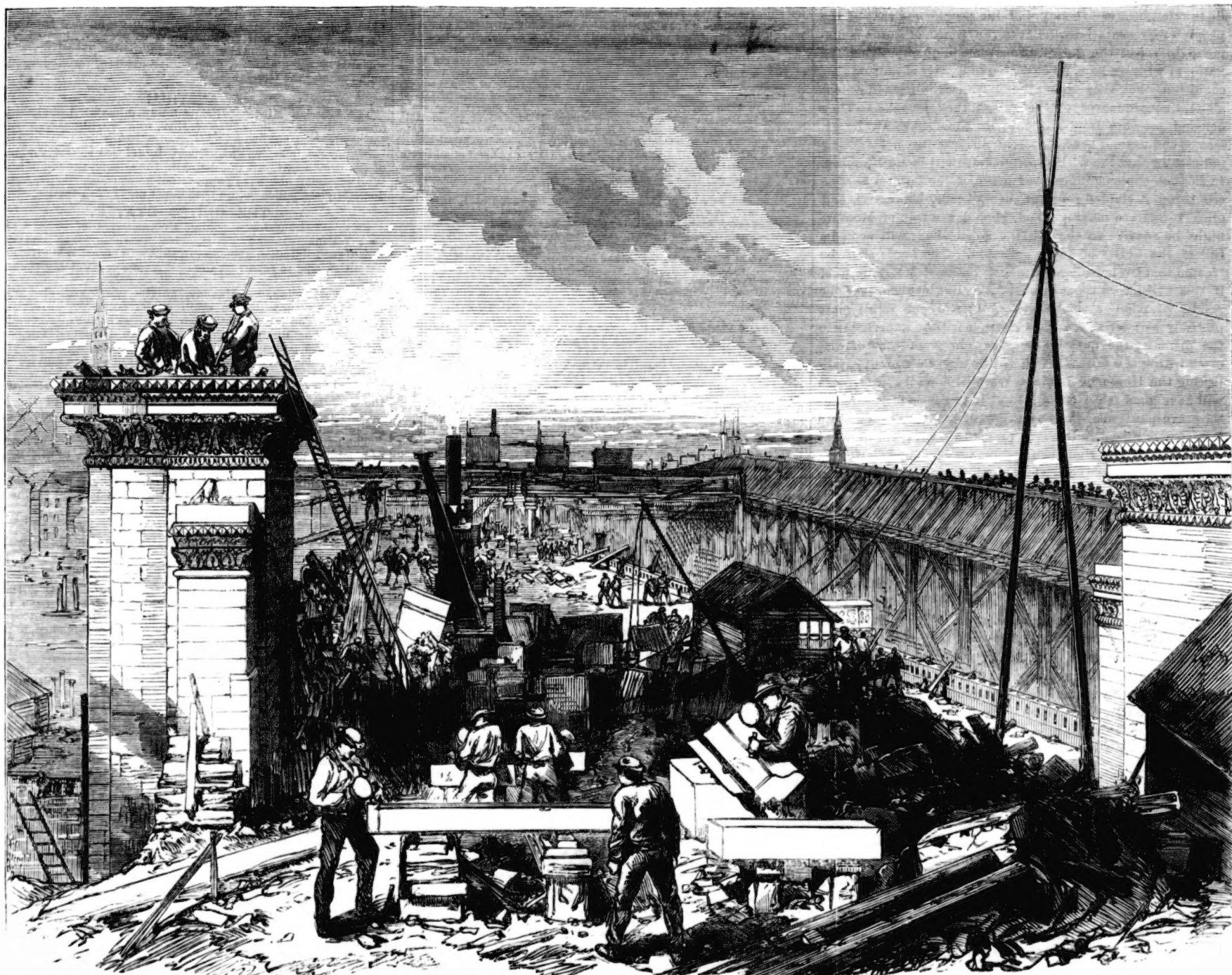
## THE LORDS AND THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

FORCE—that is, strength—rules everything. That is a law of the universe which, though sufficiently patent to even the weakest understanding, is nevertheless one that some people do not yet appear to comprehend. Lest any one should misunderstand us, however, we hasten to say that there is force and force. There is the force of matter and the force of mind; there is active force and passive force; there is the force of character and the force of numbers; there is brute force and moral force; there is the force of intellect and the force of stupidity; there is physical force and the force of skill; there is the force of enlightenment and the force of ignorance; there is the force of principle and the force of prejudice; there is the force of justice and the force of selfishness; there is the force of right and the force of wrong; there is the force of truth and the force of error. Some of these several kinds of force work harmoniously together, while others are antagonistic; but, whether in harmony or in antagonism, one species of force invariably dominates all others with which it comes into collision. Nowhere is there, or can there be, such a thing as co-ordinate and co-equal power; some one influence must dominate, whether special provision be designedly made to effect such a result or not. It may, and often does,

happen, that the dominating influence is not *apparently* the most powerful, though it must be so *really*. The maxim—whoever was the author of it—that Providence is always on the side of the big battalions, is only true so far, for it presupposes that the big battalions possess quality as well as mere magnitude. Without courage to animate and skill to guide them the big battalions would be of small value, as has been amply proved at Thermopylæ and elsewhere. That by the way. We only mention this matter of big battalions to show that we quite appreciate the fact that there are different qualities as well as degrees of force. But we repeat that force of some sort or other dominates the universe, and settles all mundane affairs. Let us illustrate our meaning a little further. Every disputed point in law, in metaphysics, in science, in religion—in everything, in short—is settled in accordance with the greatest amount of evidence—that is, the greatest degree of force—that can be brought to bear upon it. That is the ultimate result, where free discussion and the operation of natural methods obtain; though it is true that the right process is occasionally interrupted by pernicious influences—false forces; but these endure only for a time. Truth invariably prevails in the end. That, at least, is our creed.

Now, applying the principles enunciated above to the

great political question of the day, let us ask, Have the Conservative peers of this realm such a degree and quality of force on their side as shall justify them in rejecting the bill disestablishing and disendowing the Irish Church, as we are told they mean to do? It appears to us that they have not, because they lack alike the force of justice, of reason, of constitutional right, and of numbers. First, they lack the force of justice, for no man or body of men has a right to domineer over others in the matter of religion, which is an affair purely and solely between the Creator and his creatures; least of all are Protestants entitled to exercise such dominance, for it is at variance with the fundamentals of their faith; and as the ascendancy of Protestantism in Ireland, as represented by the Established Church, violates both natural right and Reformed doctrine, it clearly lacks the force of justice, and ought not to continue. Second, the balance of reason is against the course the Conservative peers threaten to pursue, which, indeed, is only a corollary of our first proposition, for it is impossible that true reason can be on the side of injustice. But it is a fact worth noting that the force of argument is altogether on the side of abolition and against the champions of the Church. They have been out-argued as well as out-voted; and, though we cannot expect them to admit that, the fact is nevertheless of weight in



THE WORKS AT BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE, FROM THE SURREY SIDE.



deciding the question, Who shall yield—the Lords and the clergy, or the House of Commons and the people? Third, the peers in this matter lack the force of true constitutional right. They are only one branch of the Legislature—as they form only one section of the community. The other two branches of the Legislature—the Crown and the Commons—are agreed; and, in obedience to the rule of all constitutional systems of Government that the minority shall submit to the majority, the Lords are bound to give way, and let the will of the nation have effect. The peers have no independent power of action; they are only, as it were, one wheel in a series, and are bound to conform to the general operation of the whole machine. They have not even a co-ordinate, much less a controlling, power in the Legislature. Fourth, the Peers lack the force of numbers. They constitute a mere handful of the nation; and where all citizens have an equal right to judge, and pretty nearly equal capacity for judging (for we need scarcely deny that the Peers as a body are more eminent for intellectual power than the rest of the community, however distinguished individuals among them may be), it is preposterous to say that the convictions, however conscientious, of the few should override those of the many. The Peers are thus in every sense the weakest—weakest in numbers, in constitutional right, and, on this question of the Irish Church, weakest in the force of justice and of reasoning. The only powers on their side are prejudice and (in their clients) selfishness, neither of which is entitled to consideration. We might be content, on occasion, to sacrifice something to the prejudices and mistaken convictions of weak brethren; but aristocratic weakness cannot dominate popular strength, or lordly prejudice override national conviction.

On all the grounds enumerated, therefore, the House of Lords cannot succeed in thwarting the national will on any question on which that will is distinctly pronounced; least of all when the mind of the nation has been declared in so emphatic a way as on this matter of the Irish Church. We are told by the Marquis of Salisbury that the House of Lords is not subservient to the House of Commons, but that it is subservient to the nation. That, we take leave to say, is a distinction without a difference—a mere playing with phrases; for, as the House of Commons is now elected, its voice is to all intents and purposes the voice of the people. The abolition of the Irish Church was as truly voted in the polling-booths as in the division-lobbies of the House of Commons. The majorities in the popular Chamber only recorded the decision of the country previously pronounced in the elections. It is, consequently, a mere quibble to draw a distinction between the mind of the people and that of the people's representatives. But if the House of Lords is disposed to reject the constitutional mode of expressing the national will, we have no objection to gratify them: on this condition, that they bear all the responsibility and accept all the consequences of the course they provoke. They demand pressure from without; let them have it, by all means, and to their hearts' content, and there are not wanting indications that the wished-for pressure will be forthcoming. In London the seemingly dead bones of the Reform League are being revived; Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle, and other towns are moving; and, should the vote of Monday night be adverse to the bill, the political air will soon be full of the noises of angry agitation. The Lords shall be treated to a fresh declaration of the national determination, if that will afford them satisfaction. But let them take the results of popular turmoil as well; and one result most probably will be that a new element will be imported into the dispute; the question may expand from that of disestablishing the Irish Church to the propriety of disestablishing the House of Lords. We still hope that the peers will have good sense enough to yield to gentle means before the grave question of their own right of existence in the State is violently raised. But it is proper to warn them of what may happen; and that such a point may be mooted, if they persist in resisting the national will, is undoubtedly "upon the cards," if we may be allowed to employ a vulgar but expressive colloquialism. On the ground of expediency, therefore, as well as on others, the noble opponents of Mr. Gladstone's great measure ought to be wise, and wise in time.

The great mentor of Conservatism, Lord Derby, it is true, has declared in favour of resistance à outrance; and Lord Derby, it is also true, is a perfect type of his party—rash, obstinate, and unreasoning; but we fancy that even he, Rupert of debate as he is in old age as he was in youth, will see the propriety of consulting the dictates of prudence, and abstain from pushing matters to extremity. He will feel the necessity, we fancy, of avoiding the sacrifice of the prestige, dignity, influence, usefulness, and, peradventure, the stability, of his order in a cause which no such sacrifice could ultimately serve, and in defence of an institution that can by no possibility be saved from inevitable doom. For we may rest assured of this, that the Irish Church will be abolished, whatever the House of Lords may do. That consummation will certainly be attained in the long run; and if it be a little delayed, it will in all probability be only the more thorough; while other institutions, which ought to be, and we dare say are, equally dear to Lord Derby and his colleagues, may chance to be rudely shaken in the struggle.

We may remind Lord Derby and those who follow his leading that obstinate unreasoning resistance to change has generally led to revolution, and that, however willing to repeat the performance, the Lord of Knowsley is not likely

to have another opportunity of "dishing the Whigs" by taking the wind out of their sails and passing a measure of disestablishment and disendowment more sweeping than that now before Parliament. Neither can the party "revert to their original policy" of "levelling up" by concurrent endowment of the Roman Catholic Church; first, because the Protestants of the three kingdoms, Liberals as well as Conservatives, will agree to no such measure; and, second, because there is no available source from which to obtain the necessary funds. Episcopal parsons are not likely to surrender any portion of their incomes in order that they may be conferred on Roman Catholic priests, even if the latter would accept the dole; and the rest of the community will never consent to tax themselves heavily in order to endow Roman Catholicism—or any other *ism*—in Ireland or elsewhere. And that the "levelling up" project would involve heavy taxation is palpable from the fact that to make a provision for the Catholic priests at all commensurate with that enjoyed by the Protestant parsons would require many millions sterling. In short, the thing is impracticable; and the wisest and safest course for all parties is to accept the inevitable, and submit to disestablishment and disendowment on the terms now offered. Better never will be within their reach; with worse they may by-and-by be glad to close.

#### WORKS AT BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.

It was at one time intended that the new bridge at Blackfriars should be opened to the public on her Majesty's birthday, May 24, but it was found impossible to complete the edifice at that date. Some day in July is now, we believe, talked of for the inauguration; but a glance at the state of the works, as shown in our engraving, will, we think, satisfy anyone that a further postponement of the ceremony will be necessary. However, it may be confidently anticipated that by some time in autumn—at all events, some time before Christmas—this convenient and elegant structure will be opened for public use. We see that Mr. William Allingham has made a suggestion as to the name to be given to the new bridge which is deserving of consideration. In a letter to an evening contemporary, Mr. Allingham says:—"As the new bridge at Blackfriars will soon be opened, perhaps you will allow me to bring forward again very briefly a suggestion which I made several years ago—viz., to call it 'Shakespeare Bridge.' The Globe and the Blackfriars theatres stood in this part of London, one on each side of the river. As postscript it may be added that if there is to be a new Shakespeare monument it could scarcely stand in a better place than on or near this bridge." The main difficulty in following out Mr. Allingham's suggestion is the tenacity with which the general public adhere to accustomed names. People have been in the habit of speaking of Blackfriars Bridge, and of Blackfriars Bridge they will probably continue to speak whatever name may be given to the structure by its official sponsors.

AT THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION, on Wednesday, there was a gathering of the usual character in the Sheldonian Theatre. The Cretan oration having been delivered amid great interruptions on the part of the undergraduates, the prize compositions were down for recital by their respective authors. The undergraduates, however, created such an uproar that the Vice-Chancellor was compelled to bring the proceedings to a premature close.

AN EXHIBITION OF GERMAN INDUSTRY.—In Wittenberg, the old town of Martin Luther, an industrial exhibition was opened on the 1st inst., which has far surpassed the most sanguine expectations of its projectors. No less than 939 manufacturers, with 2000 specimens of their industrial skill, have been represented on this occasion. The display possesses a peculiar interest in being composed almost exclusively of products of German industry, of which there is now in Wittenberg a more complete collection than was to be seen in any of the great European exhibitions.

INCREASE IN GRAIN IMPORTS.—How regularly our import of all grain goes on increasing, in defiance of an exceptionally fine yield of one sort of grain, is apparent, if we take the period that has elapsed since the close of last harvest. Stated in quarters, the total of all kinds of cereals and flour imported and entered for home consumption between Sept. 1, 1866, and May 1, 1867, was 10,421,464 qrs. In the same period of 1867-8 it was 10,907,156 qrs.; while in the corresponding months of 1868-9, when the effects of a good wheat harvest were most apparent in a greatly-reduced import of that grain, the total was no less than 11,735,900 qrs. The increase was in barley, peas, beans, and Indian corn, wheat showing a heavy decrease. In other words, while the supply of food for men has been less required from abroad, that for animals has been so much wanted to cover our deficiency of production that we are still more than ever the debtors of those who sow and reap for us beyond the seas.—*Chamber of Agriculture Journal*.

A NOBLE FISHERMAN.—A party of fishermen on the beach between Walmer and Deal one day last week were hauling in their large nets with a copious take of mackerel, and, as is usual upon such occasions, willing hands were ready to help to pull in the nets. A gentleman, who was looking on, seeing that all available strength was wanted to land the fish, seized one corner, and, with a vigorous tug, contributed in getting the take up the abrupt beach. Upon opening the net, preparatory to sorting the fish and packing for the London market, all the helping hands were given some half dozen for their ready aid, as is the custom, and the gentleman asked whether he had earned a share. "Oh, yes," said the worthy master of the boat, "you war a good help; take four of the finest you can see, and here's a bit o' twine to car' em home with;" and threading four of the handsomest mackerel at hand, gave them to the gentleman, who walked off with them there and then to Walmer Castle. It was the noble Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports who thus practically earned his breakfast.—*Kent Herald*.

SPOILATION AND SACRILEGE.—The Rev. Stewart Byrth, M.A., Incumbent of Seacombe, in the course of a letter to the *Liverpool Advertiser* on the misuse of these alarming words in connection with the Irish Church Bill, says:—"If it be true that a man has no natural right over property on earth for ever, because he once held it for a few years, it seems that he cannot consecrate to the use of the Church a perpetual enjoyment of that which he did not own in perpetuity himself. If I were to bring a concave of Bishops to-morrow, and consecrate the *Admon* office and the revenues of the paper to the service of the Church, you, Sir, would only laugh at us; for I should have no power, and the consecration would be void; but not more void than the act of a man who fondly thinks that he has a right to tie up property that future generations shall have no power to alter his disposition of it. We only complicate the matter and confuse our own minds by introducing sacred names, and endeavouring to make God a party to a bargain. The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. But, even if men persist in doing so, and asking how we can dare to take from God that which has once been given to Him, and which He has accepted, the answer is plain. We may be sure that God never did accept that which he who thought he gave it did not possess."

TRANSPLANTING HOLLIES.—July and August are the two best months in the whole year for transplanting evergreens, especially when they have only to be moved from one part of the garden to another. With plants that have to come a long distance by rail the case is different; they are more likely to suffer from exhaustion in their transit in the summer than during the comparatively cool and moist period of September. There is no more reason in choosing a period of hot dry weather in the summer for carrying on transplanting operations than there would be for selecting a spell of frost in the winter as the most favourable moment. The holes for the reception of the plants ought to be in readiness, and then, when a few days of cloudy weather set in, all hands should be set to work to get the shrubs up and replanted as quickly as possible. Most evergreens lift with good balls, and if they are taken up with ordinary care scarcely a root ought to be injured. If the ball of soil is large and quite dry, it should be reduced with a fork, to give the roots a chance to receive the benefit of the moisture in the fresh soil about them. Frequent heavy watering after planting is finished is positively injurious, though it is a difficult matter to persuade people that such is the case. The soil about the roots should be moist, without wetness, and means should be taken to keep it so without the too frequent use of the watering-pot. A good mulch is the thing, and six inches of half-rotten stable manure is the best material; there are, however, many other materials that will do nearly as well.—*Gardener's Magazine*.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

At a Council of Ministers, held on Wednesday morning, it was decided that the Chamber should be convoked for a short legislative Session for the verification of the powers of the Deputies. A decree has accordingly been issued fixing the opening of the Chambers for the 28th inst.

The semi-official *Peuple* of Wednesday evening publishes an article on the elections by its chief editor, M. Clement Duvernois, in which the writer says:—"It is requisite that the Government should show itself equal to the march of public opinion. In order to do so, it is necessary, first, to accept resolutely the Left Centre as a part of the institutions of the country; and, secondly, to make the majority a participator in the initiation of great acts, thus causing it to stand out in relief as much as possible before the country."

It is announced that General Fleury, Aide-de-Camp of the Emperor, has been appointed French Minister at the Court of Italy. General Fleury has already fulfilled several important diplomatic missions; and the *Patrie* says that his appointment at the moment when a marked *rapprochement* is taking place between France, Austria, and Italy is a fact of the utmost interest.

### ITALY.

The anniversary of the promulgation of the Italian Constitution was celebrated at Florence on Sunday. The King and Prince Humbert, with Princess Margherita, reviewed the garrison in the morning, and in the evening there was a general illumination and fireworks. The King afterwards left for Turin, and Prince Humbert and Princess Margherita for Milan and Monza. In the Chamber of Deputies, last Saturday, Signor Lobbia made a charge of corruption against a member of the Chamber. It was brought before a committee of the House on Monday, and is still under investigation.

### SPAIN.

The Constitution was promulgated on Sunday last, in all parts of the Peninsula, amid perfect order.

In the Cortes, on Tuesday, the proposal of the majority to establish a Regency came on for discussion; and Senor Olazaga said that for the present the election of a Monarch was impossible. The question of appointing a committee on the Regency project was referred to the bureaux of the Chamber.

General Prim has found it necessary to give an assurance that "individual rights shall be respected," in consequence of certain abuses having been committed by the military authorities.

Affairs in Cuba have taken a curious turn. The volunteers sent out to aid in quelling the insurrection have compelled General Dulce to resign the government of the island into the hands of his second in command, General Espinar, the reason alleged for this extraordinary act being that General Dulce was too lenient to the rebels in consequence of the influence exercised over him by his wife, who is a creole. The volunteers undertook to maintain order in Havannah, a promise which, according to telegrams from General Espinar, they have fully performed. General Caballero de Rodas has been appointed to succeed General Dulce. According to Spanish accounts from Cuba, which have reached New York, a party of filibusters who landed on the 10th ult. were routed the day following with considerable loss, and their vessel, artillery, and provisions captured.

### GERMANY.

In the sitting of the Customs' Parliament, on the 4th inst., Dr. Simson was re-elected president by a large majority, and Princes Hohenlohe and Schillingfurst and Duke Ujest were re-elected vice-presidents. Prince Hohenlohe, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, in accepting the vice-presidency, thanked the Chamber for the honour paid to him and said—"Your vote acquires in my eyes a great political importance. The confidence shown in me by this Assembly will encourage me to proceed and persevere in the course which I consider right, and to devote all my energies towards bringing about a good understanding, reconciliation, and union among the German races."

### AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Military Budget for 1870 has been published. It exceeds by five millions that of 1869, and provides for an army of the strength of 800,000 men.

Bishop Rudigier, who had repeatedly refused to obey a summons of the Provincial Court of Justice on the alleged ground of a Papal brief enjoining him not to appear before a secular Court, was conducted by the police before that Court on the 5th inst.

### THE UNITED STATES.

President Grant has appointed a commission of seven members to investigate Indian affairs, with instructions to inspect the records of all Indian agencies, to superintend the disbursement of annuities, and to report on the best means of civilising the savage tribes.

At Washington, on Monday, at the municipal election, the Republicans succeeded in electing the collector, surveyor, and registrar. The latter and seven members of the city council are negroes. The Radical negroes mobbed a Democratic negro, and attacked the police who were protecting him. The police used their revolvers, and dispersed the negroes, killing one and wounding many.

President Grant, in response to an application of a delegation of the Georgia Republicans, has ordered the removal of the negro postmaster at Macon, who was represented as obnoxious to the entire white population.

The national depository at Santa Fé has been robbed of a quarter of a million of dollars, and the person in charge of the building murdered.

The Washington Government has sent a special commissioner to St. Domingo to investigate the political and general condition of the Dominican Republic.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

The Nova Scotian House of Assembly has rejected the resolution for annexation to the Dominion.

### AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne advices by telegraph to April 25 state that the late Minister in Victoria for Railways has been expelled from Parliament, in consequence of the report of a Bribery Committee; that an ex-Mayor of Melbourne has been similarly punished, and that other members are likely to follow.

FIRE AND LOSS OF THREE LIVES.—A most disastrous fire took place last Saturday night in one of the five-floor houses in Pentonville-road. The fire commenced at half-past nine o'clock—a time when the traffic of the thoroughfare was at its height. It appears that a man who rented the lower part of the building was in the act of charging a lamp with paraffin oil, contained in a glass bottle, when he let the bottle fall, and the oil spread over the floor, became ignited, and fired the apartment. In a few minutes the flames caught the staircase, shutting off the means of escape to those who occupied the upper part of the house. As the flames shot forth from the windows and doorways, two females were seen on the roof of the house, in the midst of sparks and thick volumes of smoke; and as they were making their way for the roof of the next house some of the coping-stones fell, but the women were drawn in by their neighbours and thus escaped. Two other females were heard screaming on the third floor, but were presently seen to fall down in the midst of the fire and smoke. The fire-escape was brought up, when a delay of a few minutes was caused by the iron rails of the fore-court, which had to be cut away to allow the escape to approach; by this time it was too late to save the two women and a child known to be in the burning building. Several engines arrived, and the fire was brought under in about half an hour—the house far from being entirely destroyed, but every room considerably damaged by fire and water. The charred remains of the two women and the child were found in the upper story, and taken to the parish mortuary to await an inquest. The two young women, whose names were Anne Thomas and Martha Naylor, aged twenty-two and twenty-three respectively, were milliners, and were busily engaged in finishing some work, unconscious of their danger until the flames had gained so far upon them as to effectually debar their escape.



### THE CONSERVATIVE PEERS AND THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

JUDGING by what we have learned of the result of a private meeting of the Conservative peers, held at the Duke of Marlborough's, last Saturday, their Lordships have placed themselves in a serious dilemma. Lord Cairns opened the proceedings, and in a speech of some length, characterised by his usual lucidity and ability, set forth the reasons why he thought their Lordships ought to reject the bill on the second reading. The bill had been hastily passed by a Parliament hastily formed, and there were already symptoms of a change in the feelings of the country on the measure. The House of Lords, it was urged by the daily press, must sooner or later bow to the will of the House of Commons and the country, and pass the bill, whether they liked it or no; but he ventured to think that, holding such views as they did entertain, the House of Lords would be acting wisely and constitutionally in giving the country another year to reconsider the whole question. In another Session the bill was again passed by a large majority of the House of Commons, their Lordships could then, without any loss of dignity, consent to pass the bill in deference to the reiterated will of the country. His Lordship also urged the danger of shaking the loyalty of the Irish Protestants, which would be one result of passing the bill.

Lord Derby supported Lord Cairns's view, and spoke with all his customary force and eloquence. He was once more the Rupert of the attack; but, unfortunately, that is not quite the same thing as being a good general. He was for throwing the bill out, regardless of all consequences.

Lord Salisbury, with unusual gravity and earnestness, combated the idea that the country had not had time adequately to express its mind on the subject of the measure, and drew a picture of what would probably happen if their Lordships rejected it on the second reading. If they asked for more pressure, the demand would be answered in full. Ireland might even be brought to indicate in bloodshed her will that the bill should be passed. If a majority was obtainable in no other way, the constitutional privilege of creating Whig peers would be exercised, and the measure would be forced through the House. Where would they be then, and how would they appear in the eyes of the country? Lord Carnarvon spoke in a similar sense. It was impossible for the Lords, in the present state of public opinion, to do more than delay the passing of the bill; and was it worth while to inflame the agitation out of doors for the sake of an ineffectual protest? Lord Staurope also counselled moderation—at least an attempt, he held, should be made to amend the bill in Committee. Lord Salisbury, like Lord Stanhope, was warmly cheered by a numerous section of those present; and though undoubtedly the majority of the peers present favoured the rejection of the bill at the second reading, there can be no doubt that there is a large "Cave," and many Conservative Peers will either vote for the second reading with Lords Salisbury and Carnarvon, or else abstain from voting with Lord Harrowby. There were 180 peers present at the meeting, and we learn that the majority comprised three fourths of that number at least.

There are two forcible answers against the arguments of Lord Cairns and Lord Derby. Suppose the bill rejected at the second reading, is it quite certain that Mr. Gladstone will wait till next year before he reintroduces it? What if he should pass it the week after through the House of Commons *sub silentio*, and it should reappear before their Lordships in the course of the same Session? How will their Lordships feel then? We imagine that—to borrow an expressive simile from our old friend Sam Slick—they will feel "actily as small as the little eend of nothing whittled down." Pass it they must, then, and eat their leek as best they may. We know not how far it may affect their digestion, but affect their constitution it certainly will.

Again, it may be fairly urged that if the passing of the bill is to affect the loyalty of the Irish Protestants, the refusal to even entertain the question, on the other hand, may turn the already doubtful loyalty of the Irish Catholics to open turbulence; and it is no compliment to the Irish Protestants, who have always boasted so much of their attachment to the Crown, to assert that on the first withdrawal of State support their loyalty is to disappear. We have lived in the belief that true loyalty is not a thing of this kind. Assuredly, if loyalty is to depend upon State favour, the Catholics of the United Kingdom—as we understand, was urged by Lord Denbigh—ought to be rebels, since they have endured upwards of two centuries of persecution.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A deputation from the National Union of Conservative Associations waited on Lord Derby, on Monday, with an address, urging the peers to reject the Church Bill. Lord Derby, in reply, referred to the reports of the late meeting of peers as "more or less accurate," said that he took part in it as an individual peer, not as one wishing to influence the course of others, expressed his opinion that it would be better to reject the bill than to amend it, and his belief that it would be rejected. His Lordship was kind enough to add that the support of the Constitutional associations would be of value to the House of Peers.

**TRADES UNIONS.**—Mr. Gladstone writes to Mr. Hadfield, M.P.:—"I have to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial which you have sent to me from the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, with reference to proposed legislation on the subject of trades unions. Will you be kind enough to assure the memorialists that I will not fail to bring their wishes under the consideration of my colleagues, and that they may be confident that the whole question will receive the careful attention of her Majesty's Government."

**RITUALISM IN THE CHURCH.**—A deputation from the Church Association waited, on Tuesday, on the Archbishop of Canterbury, to present his Grace with a memorial on the subject of the recent decisions in "Martin v. Mackonochie." The object of the association was, as one of its members explained, to obtain a clear and final settlement of the law of the case; and it is their intention, with that view, to institute, with the full sanction of his Bishop, a prosecution against the Rev. Mr. Purchas. The Archbishop expressed in general terms his approval of their proceedings, and said, in the course of his reply, that, while he had great sympathy with earnestness and liberty, he had none with any acts which tended to make the Church of England different from what it was made at the Reformation, and what the vast majority of the Churchmen of the nation wished it to be.

**THE DECAY OF STONEWORK.**—In a paper read before the Civil and Mechanical Engineers' Society, on the 2nd inst., by Mr. Arthur Pain, C.E., on the principal building stones used in the metropolis, the author, after treating fully on all the different sorts of stone as they came into use chronologically, and illustrating his paper with a large map showing the position and distance of the quarries from the great centre, also a table compiled from various sources giving detailed information as to the weights, description, chemical analysis, prices, and other various information of each sort of stone, drew the attention of the society to the remarkable fact that nearly all the principal buildings in the neighbourhood of the various quarries were in an excellent state of preservation, while structures built out of the district and of the same kind of stone were, more or less, in a state of rapid decay. This, he believed, was owing to the architect, builder, and stonemason, in the first case, knowing all about the stone, and being able to reject the bad; while in the second instance they often knew nothing of its good or bad qualities, and the stone was put in without proper selection. He mentioned as an instance of the evil of non-selection the Houses of Parliament, the consequence of which was we had a building fast crumbling to decay; on the other hand, the Geological Museum, Jermyn-street, front, built of the same stone, is in excellent preservation, because it was carefully selected. He did not blame architects, engineers, masters, and workmen for not knowing more about stone, because he knew the difficulty of obtaining information. He stated that the best work which treated on the subject—i.e., the Commissioners' Report, published in 1839, at 6d.—was not to be got now under 10s. or £1; and the *Mineral Statistics*, part 2, for 1858, although a most valuable work, did not go deeply into the subject. In conclusion, he considered that the cause of technical education in that particular and important branch would be greatly advanced if the heads of the professions of architect, civil engineer, and the trades connected therewith would appoint an architect, civil engineer, chemist, geologist, builder, and practical stonemason, and get the Government to make them Royal Commissioners, with the usual powers, to report on all the principal quarries in the United Kingdom, and collect specimens, such specimens and report to be placed in the public museums in every large town throughout the country. Until that was done, he felt convinced that we should continue to build our public and private structures of good and bad stone mixed up together, with the same miserable results.

### THE RIOT AT MOLD.

THE riot at Mold, it seems, originated in a case of assault arising out of a colliery dispute. There have been three persons arrested since last Saturday morning on a charge of having taken an active part in the riot. The prisoners in custody are William Griffiths, formerly a collier, but now a "medical herbalist" in Mold; Benjamin Tatham, gentleman's servant, Mold; Isaac Jones, collier, Black Diamond (husband of the woman who was shot through the back, and who died on Saturday morning); John Roberts, driver, Leeswood; William Thomas Jones, collier, Leeswood; and Rowland Jones, collier, Pontblyddyn. The two latter were apprehended while they were asleep in bed at two o'clock on Monday morning, and were hurried into conveyances that were in waiting. They had to dress themselves on their way to the County Hall at Mold, the object of the police in making the arrest at night being to secure their prisoners without giving the colliers the opportunity of attempting a rescue.

On Monday the six prisoners were brought before the justices at the County Hall, Mold. The court-room was densely crowded, and the greatest excitement was manifested by the public outside in the issue of the trial. Mr. Taylor, solicitor, Flint, appeared for the prisoners Isaac Jones and William Thomas Jones. The other prisoners were undefended.

Mr. Browne, Chief Constable of Flintshire, deposed that, on Wednesday evening last week, a mob of about 1500 colliers commenced hustling and throwing stones at the police and soldiers who had in charge the two prisoners committed to gaol for committing an assault upon Mr. Young, the manager of the Leeswood-green Colliery. The first stone was thrown by a woman, and immediately afterwards the stone-throwing became general from all directions, the object of the rioters evidently being to rescue the two prisoners, and several of his men were struck with stones and knocked down. The volleys of stones hurled at the military and police darkened the air, and he saw several of his men bleeding from the face and head, the blood streaming down their uniforms. It was impossible for any of them to go out and face the mob. If a magistrate had gone out of the station to read the Riot Act he would certainly have been murdered. Life was decidedly in great and imminent danger at that moment in the station. The witness called upon Captain Blake, the officer in command of the military, to protect himself and his own men and the constables by firing into the mob. He refused to do so. The witness thought it was necessary to have a magistrate's order to justify firing, and he said to a magistrate, Mr. Clough, "For God's sake give the order to fire, or we shall be murdered!" He then shouted out as loudly as he could, "Fire!" The commanding officer even then was very reluctant to allow his men to fire, although at that moment his face was covered with blood and blood was also streaming from a wound at the back of his head. Some of the soldiers, who were very severely cut, were writhing under the pain they were suffering. They wished to fire, but the captain held them back. One private who was wounded charged his rifle, and was about to step towards the station gate with his rifle pointed towards the mob, when one of the officers caught hold of him round the waist and drew him back off his legs, at the same time crying out, "For God's sake, don't fire!" The stone-throwing all this time was continued, the mob even coming round to the platform, and across the line on the opposite side of the railway. The police and military were thus surrounded by the rioters, and he again called upon the officers to fire on their assailants. Immediately after witness heard the discharge of a rifle, followed by other shots. The officers were holding their men back, and using every effort to check them in firing, cautioning them not to take human life. They said, "For God's sake, men, don't fire where there's no necessity for it!" To the best of his judgment, twelve or fifteen shots were fired, and then the mob dispersed, and the few soldiers that were firing were ordered back to the platform. The greatest number of shots were fired from the yard behind the station. One or two shots were fired from the station gate. There was no volley firing, only dropping shots, with long intervals between the firing. Witness recognised Isaac Jones as being in the crowd in the courtyard as the escort with the prisoners in charge were starting for the station; but did not see him throw stones. He could not speak to any of the other prisoners.

Sergeant Hughes and several other police officers gave corroborative evidence, and identified all the prisoners as having taken part in the riot. The case occupied the magistrate for seven hours, and ultimately Mr. Taylor applied for an adjournment till Wednesday, in order to obtain evidence for the defence, which was granted.

Captain Blake gave evidence that his men did not fire until the magistrate ordered them. No blank cartridges were used. In cross-examination, Captain Blake said the soldiers marched to the station with arms trailed. He did not hear the Riot Act read. Stone-throwing was continued over a quarter of an hour before he had an order to fire. The men fired into the mob, but not without his order, although they were irritated.

Dr. Williams and Mr. Trubshaw spoke to the injuries inflicted, the former having dressed the wounds of twenty soldiers, and the latter attended the police. Mr. Taylor applied for bail on behalf of Isaac Jones, who wanted to see his wife buried; and, after some consultation, the Bench granted it, requiring two sureties of £50 each, and the prisoner in £50. The other prisoners were ordered to find bail in £50 for their reappearance on Wednesday morning.

At the renewed examination of the men charged with complicity in the Mold riots, which took place on Wednesday, two were discharged, one entered into his recognisance to appear when called upon to do so, and the others were committed for trial at the assizes. The military remain in the town, where, however, quiet prevails.

**LOSSES AT SEA.**—It is to be feared that the United Kingdom, one of the line of steamers trading between New York and Glasgow, has met with some fearful catastrophe. She left New York on April 19, with a full freight of passengers and a large quantity of merchandise, but nothing has since been heard of her. The ship John Bellamy, homeward bound from India, was totally lost on April 28, near Rangoon. She sailed from Calcutta to London on April 8. She had a large cargo on board. The ship Ida Ziegler, well known in the New Zealand trade for her successful voyages, has been totally lost in Hawke's Bay. The New Zealand crew was saved. She had on board 2500 bales of cotton. Both ship and cargo were insured.

**THE ENGLISH JOINT-STOCK BANK.**—Mr. Finney, the manager of the English Joint-Stock Bank, was brought before the Lord Mayor, last Saturday, on a new charge—that of having, in 1866, committed perjury before Mr. Lawrence, an Examiner in Chancery under the Companies Act. The defendant, in cross-examination before Mr. Lawrence, had sworn that he had never received any money, except his salary, from persons connected with the bank; and, in particular, that he had received nothing from Mr. Bradlaugh. Mr. Lewis now undertakes to prove that the defendant received £1400 from Mr. Bradlaugh, and other sums from persons connected with the bank. The case was remanded, after a great number of witnesses had been examined. The Lord Mayor gave his decision, on Monday, in the charge of conspiracy against the manager and three of the late directors of the English Joint-Stock Bank. His Lordship decided that the evidence would not justify him in sending either Captain Mangles, Mr. Bradshaw, or Mr. Abbas for trial, but that the case of Mr. Finney must go before a jury at the Central Criminal Court.

**THE RIGHT OF VOTING.**—In the Court of Common Pleas last Saturday, an appeal was decided on the question whether the members of the University of Cambridge who had chambers in college were entitled to vote for representatives for the town. The appeal was founded upon the case of the scholars, and upon those of the fellows and the undergraduates. The case stated that each scholar occupied rooms in his college separately as sole tenant, and rented the same unfurnished at £10 a year or upwards. The rent was paid to the corporate body, and each appellant as a member of the corporation received an allowance out of the fund, of which his rent formed part. Each appellant had the key of his rooms and there was a common staircase. The master and fellows had a regulating power as to closing the outer gate, and each appellant was subject to the general discipline of his college. The Lord Chief Justice said that the Legislature, having experienced some difficulty in agreeing upon a definition, had left it to the Judges to decide the meaning of certain general and ambiguous terms, and they had therefore to interpret as best they might the sense in which they were used in the statute, and they must take as their guide the whole language of the Act of Parliament. He had come to the conclusion that the appellants did not occupy as lodgers, and that their rooms were not lodgings within the meaning of the statute.

### GEORGE WASHINGTON'S HOME.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *New York Tribune* thus describes a visit he has lately paid to Mount Vernon, the residence of Washington:—"We passed the flower-garden inclosed by a brick wall 6 ft. high, and came to the back door, which really is the door of entrance; for, although there is a double front door, it has no latch to it, and is fastened by a bar; nor does a road or even path lead to the front door. This mansion is 96 ft. long, 33 ft. wide, and two stories high. When it came into Washington's possession it was only about 50 ft. long, but he added extensions to each end. The cornering is in imitation of blocks of stone, made of 142 boards with bevelled grooves, so as to make divisions of about 2½ ft. by 1 ft. The piazza in front is supported by square pillars, two stories high, and the floor of this piazza is of sand-stones 1 ft. square, many of which are much worn away. Facing from the back door are walks and an open grassy space of about half an acre, terminated by a lawn planted with trees; on each side are various small buildings intended for the kitchen, the garden, the butler, and the overseer; on the right is the flower-garden, and on the left the kitchen-garden, also inclosed with a brick wall, and each containing about three fourths of an acre. The flower-garden contains old hedges of box, planted by Washington, and there is a handsome serpentine walk which he himself laid out. A green-house is near, also a seed-house. Several men were at work preparing to build a new green-house. The garden contains nothing noticeable. Beyond the garden, and part way down the hill, toward the tomb, is a brick bank barn, about 80 ft. long and 40 ft. wide, with stables on the lower side, and the ground approaching is well paved with cobble-stones. From the front of the house the river is seen only in a few places.

"The rooms on the lower floor are as follow:—On the south the library, perhaps 20 ft. square, with a case that would hold some 250 volumes; adjoining, the private dining-room and the east parlour; next, the west parlour and the grand dining-room, 33 ft. long, and, perhaps, 25 ft. wide. This room contains a beautiful marble mantle, a gift from Italy; an old harpsichord and stool, bridal presents from Washington to Miss Custis; his surveyor's tripod, two or three military baggage equipages, and his pistol-holsters. The library contains an original cast of Washington, from which Houdon's statue at Richmond is said to have been made, and a cast of Lafayette.

"Some of the northern people now living there say they have lost the romance they once had concerning Washington, for they learn directly from tradition that as a neighbour he was unsocial, haughty, very exacting, and quick-tempered. Something of this may be true, but he had a worthless set of slaves to deal with; and, besides, there were squatters through the woods who trespassed on his timber and fishing grounds, killed most of the deer he tried to keep, and in various ways annoyed him, and it is not likely that they have handed down anything pleasant that he said of them. Something also is due to political feeling, for the Democrats charged him with being an aristocrat. The truth is, he was a man who paid the closest attention to his affairs; nothing that in any way concerned him escaped his attention, and he could ill bear unthrif and improvidence, and depredation. Hence, when absent, his minute directions to his overseers.

"The tomb containing the remains of Washington and his wife is on a gentle declivity facing a wooded hill. The road runs by the side of a fence where old pear-trees of the native variety stand, as in a hedge. Through an iron-grated door one sees his marble sarcophagus, handsomely ornamented on the right; while hers, quite plain, is on the left, and this is all. On the outside are the various monuments of the family."

**THIRTEEN ORANGEMEN** were arrested on Wednesday night for drumming along the Shankill-road in Belfast. The constabulary were obliged to draw their swords. The mob stoned the policemen, some of whom are severely cut. The prisoners were escorted by a strong guard of policemen armed with rifles, and were conveyed to the head police office.

**LEEDS AND THE TORY LORDS.**—There is but one feeling amongst the Liberals of Leeds respecting the Irish Church Bill. They declare their intention, if the Upper House defy the country, to show such a determined front as will again send the Tories "leaping into the dark." A great demonstration on Woodhouse Moor will probably be held, if the Lords should reject the bill, and we may anticipate that it will be as large as those which took place when the Tories were frightened into an extension of the suffrage. A few of the leading Liberals of Leeds have already convened committee meetings, in order to discuss what steps shall be taken in the event of the rejection of the Irish Church Bill. To-day and to-morrow the Borough Liberal Registration Society and a similar society for the West Riding will hold meetings. On Thursday the executive of the Leeds Reform League will discuss the probable conduct of the Lords and the duty of the Liberal party. The explosive train will shortly be laid throughout the United Kingdom, and the Lords' rejection will fire it.—*Leeds Express*.

### THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

#### RESULTS.

THE second ballots in Paris and the departments have mainly gone in favour of the Orleanists and Moderates. Thiers, Garnier-Pagès, and Jules Favre are all elected in the capital. M. Favre polled 18,350 votes, against his "irreconcilable" opponent, M. Rochefort. M. Thiers, in the second circumscription, had 15,912 votes, against 9962 for the official candidate, M. Devinck, and 5741 for M. D'Alton Shee. M. Garnier-Pagès, in the fifth circumscription, had 19,474 votes, against 16,671 polled for M. Raspail. In the sixth circumscription M. Jules Ferry was elected by 15,723 votes, against 13,938 for M. Cochon. At Marseilles M. Gambetta (Radical Opposition) has been returned by 12,865 votes, against 5064 given to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps. For the same city M. Esquiros has been elected by 11,244 votes, against 9787 obtained by M. Rougemont. At Lyons M. Esquiros was defeated by M. Ferras, the votes being 14,463 and 10,032. M. Desseaux (Opposition) is elected at Rouen, M. Pouyer-Quertier being the unsuccessful candidate. In the Department of the Nord, M. Boduin (Opposition) is elected. At Nantes M. Gandin (official) has been successful against M. Guepin (Democratic Opposition). M. de Kératry (Opposition) is elected for Finistère.

M. Forcade de la Roquette, Minister of the Interior, has addressed a circular despatch to the prefects announcing that in the fifty-nine elections where a second balloting was necessary thirty of the successful candidates were either supported or unopposed by the Government; twenty-eight, on the other hand, belong to the Opposition. The final result of the elections throughout France gives a majority for the Government of 213. The Third and Independent parties will be represented in the Chamber by forty-two deputies, and the Radical party by thirty-five.

#### DISTURBANCES.

On Monday evening great agitation prevailed in Paris. On the Boulevard Montmartre the traffic was very much impeded, and the crowd did not disperse until two o'clock on Tuesday morning. Seditious cries were uttered and projectiles thrown at the sergeants-de-ville. A commissioner of police received a wound on the head. All the cafés were closed at an early hour, and several arrests were made. On the Boulevard St. Michael, in the Quartier Latin, where M. Henri Rochefort was one of the candidates, the excitement was equally great, but nothing serious occurred. Some persons were badly bruised in the crush, but no death is reported. The police are greatly blamed for having caused these disturbances by their rash and overbearing conduct. At Nantes a great crowd assembled in front of the Prefecture, and a hostile demonstration was made against the elected candidate. Stones were thrown at the gendarmes. The excitement, however, soon came to an end, and the crowd returned to their homes without the interference of the military. Large and riotous crowds also gathered on Monday evening in Bordeaux. A commissioner of the central police and several policemen were severely wounded. The gendarmes were therefore called out, and fifty-seven persons were taken into custody. The *Temps* says that 200 arrests were made on Monday evening in Paris. According to the *Public*, however, the number of persons taken into custody



did not exceed seventy, half of whom would probably be released at once.

Tranquillity prevailed in Paris on Tuesday evening until about half-past eleven o'clock. At that hour considerable crowds assembled on the Boulevard Montmartre and commenced singing the "Marseillaise," and shouting "Vive Rochefort!" "Vive la Lanterne!" The crowd having assumed a menacing attitude, the sergens-de-ville proceeded to re-establish order, and in this they were successful without the intervention of the Garde de Paris, which arrived on the scene about 12.45 a.m. The demonstration was all over by one on Wednesday morning. At the same time a large band of people assembled in Belleville; and, after destroying many street lamps and shop fronts in that quarter, they marched down the Boulevard du Temple. All the shops were closed on their line of march, and the people in the streets retired as quickly as possible. The mob attacked a police-van, wounding the man in charge and the driver, and then marched in the direction of the Bastille. On their way thither they were stopped by some sergens-de-ville and dispersed after thirteen arrests had been made. Some further rather serious disturbances took place at Nantes on Tuesday evening, in consequence of the working men declaring their refusal to recognise the majority obtained by M. Gaudin through the votes of the country electors. The shops of the gunsmiths were ransacked by the crowd, and several fights occurred, the disorder lasting until nearly three o'clock this morning. The troops showed great moderation, and the number of persons wounded is small. Reinforcements have been sent from Tours by rail to the garrison of Nantes, which has been on foot for the last forty-eight hours.

#### OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The electoral urns, as they are called, after all, no more than chests provided with handles at the sides for their easier conveyance. After the voting, these boxes were each carried by a couple of soldiers, of immovable and dignified presence — evidently from a deep appreciation of their duty — and conveyed to Montmartre, where during the night all the votes of that quarter were securely guarded. The box containing them bears as many seals as a jewel-case intended for exportation, and is further secured by secret locks and other contrivances for ensuring purity of election.

On the first day of polling (Sunday) very little importance seemed to be attached to the necessity of voting; but on Monday the excitement grew intense. One of the most remarkable scenes of the election was that presented at the polling-place of the section Rue St. Georges, when, at a little after nine in the morning, M. Thiers proceeded in a carriage to record his vote. His progress almost resembled that of a Royal penance, and he entered the room with an almost triumphal air to support Picard as his representative.

As the time approached for opening the urns and making known the

results of the election the excitement became more demonstrative. Groups of people thronged the boulevards and talked in all the places of public resort. In the neighbourhood of the Rue du Croissant, among the newspaper offices, the popular interest became feverish; but, in spite of the compact crowd which besieged the doors of the publishers, the newsmen managed to bring bales and bundles of political reports for distribution, and often obtained high prices for "second editions."

The results of the elections were already a matter of history before

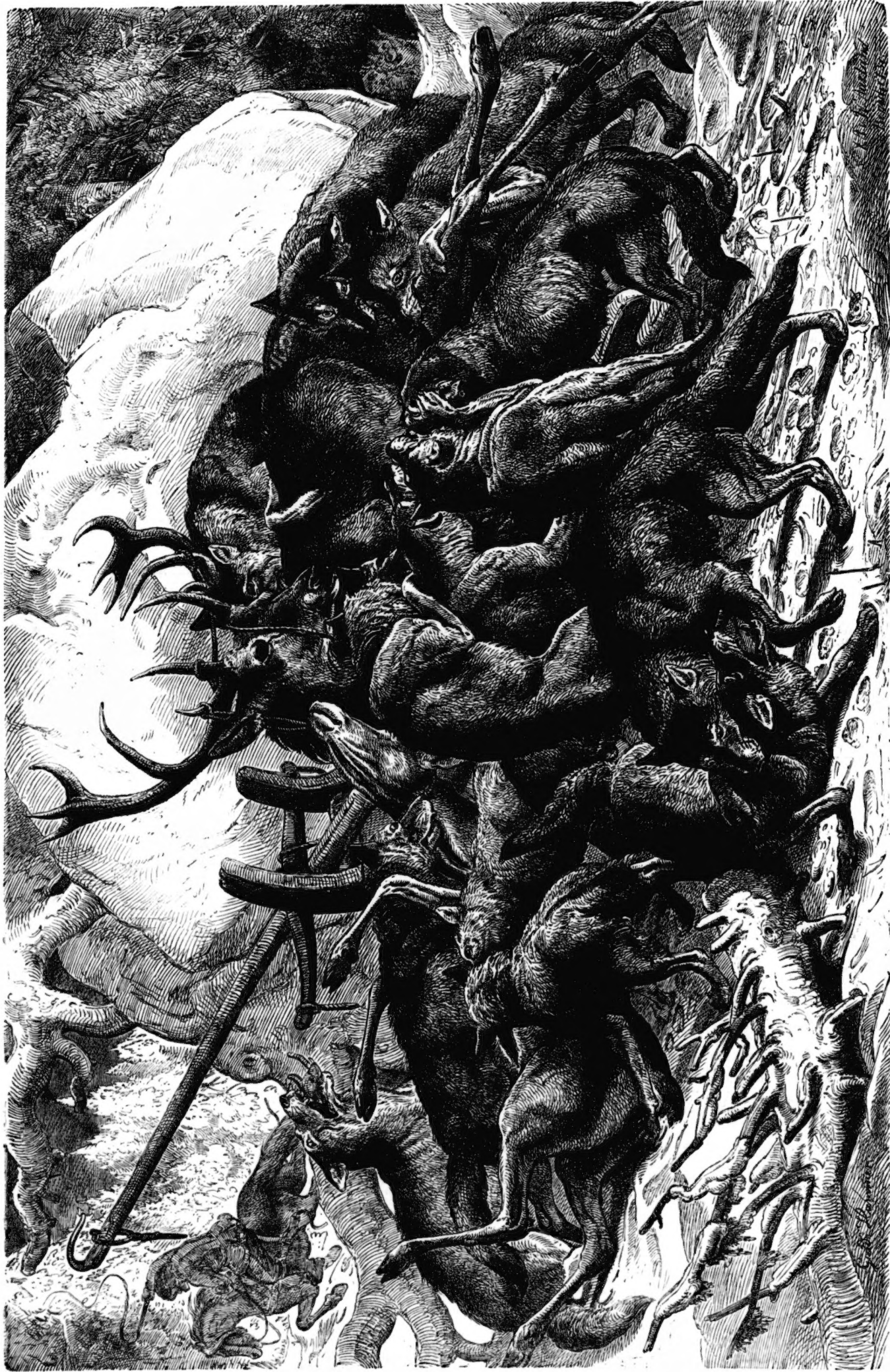
One of the most lively "circoscriptions" was certainly the seventh, which Rochefort contested with Jules Favre. The Democratic committee of that division had hard work to do, and, from first to last, the meetings, whether in artist's studio or around the marble table of a café, were energetic enough. The great orator terminated his electoral campaign and made his last speech at a special private reunion which had been called at the studio of M. Delestre, who was a great admirer of Gros, and has been nicknamed the mother of the Opposition. This studio, the

nursed to a sledge, and in fancy hears the dreary howling of the pack behind him as the keen wind whistles among the pine trees, or lifts the snow into fantastic wreaths upon his white and glittering path.

Even when the hardy sportsmen go out to meet their foe, the pastime is a dangerous one. The Esquimaux, who makes a big trap, like a mousetrap, with walls and roof and sliding panel of ice, and baits it for the wolf, whom he kills by merely knocking a hole in the trap and thrusting him through with a spear, is necessarily more alert and feels considerably more excitement in a wolf-hunt. Where sledges can be used, the guns are carefully looked to, everything is made firm, and away goes the party, one of them carrying a young porker, who is made to squeak such notes as at once attract the howling game, so that they approach the moving sledge, and are picked off by the men, who are ready with their muskets. It is a very awkward affair, however, to find a pack so numerous and so fierce and hungry as to disregard the firing of a dozen shots, and come on at full speed to charge the sledge. Then the horse must be lashed to his utmost speed; the porker itself is only a sop to stay the wild horde for a few seconds; and if a volley from all the guns at once do not check them, though it generally does, there is little help for it, except to do as was once done by a band of sportsmen whose horse had broken away from his chains and left them to face the wolves alone. It was the captain to whom the brilliant idea occurred of firing a volley to obtain a minute's reprieve; and then, all scrambling under the sledge, which they turned bottom upwards, holding it down with all their might against the furious attempts of their assailants to unearthen them, until they were released by another party who came to look after them, and drove the wolves away.

We might go on to an indefinite length with wolf lore, but our illustration will serve to recall to the reader some of those wild and terrible narratives which most of us have read of attacks by these remorseless marauders upon travellers over the snowy wastes, and even the more remarkable tales of the wolf-cubs tamed by Hindoos and of children that have been suckled by and grown up with wolves, as Romulus and Remus were fabled to have done. It is ill for the traveller who goes unarmed and alone where he may be caught by a pack of ambushed enemies and his deer torn down by their fangs as they gnash at and fight each other for a share of the prey. There is no help for it then, if he happen to have a horse also, but to cut away the traces and ride for his life, leaving the deer to its fate; and even the traveller who passes the spot where the fierce brutes are at their carnival must use whip and heel and abandon his sledge for the time if he would get off while they are too much engaged to give him their attention.

Our engraving, which is taken from a spirited picture by Guido Hammer, represents a scene such as most of us have heard or read of in the narratives of northern travel.



WOLVES ATTACKING A SLEDGE.

meeting at which is represented in our Engraving, has, for the last thirty years, been the rendezvous for Republican politicians.

#### AN ATTACK ON A SLEDGE.

TERRIBLE are the stories told of the wolves in those northern wastes across which the traveller has to make his way with horse or reindeer har-

a horse also, but to cut away the traces and ride for his life, leaving the deer to its fate; and even the traveller who passes the spot where the fierce brutes are at their carnival must use whip and heel and abandon his sledge for the time if he would get off while they are too much engaged to give him their attention.

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THE FRENCH ELECTIONS: OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF THE RESULT OF THE VOTING IN THE DISTRICT OF THE SEINE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS.



# INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 357.

A PUZZLE, AND ITS SOLUTION.

EVENTS often occur in the House of Commons which puzzle outsiders exceedingly. On Friday last week one of these puzzling events happened. On going into Committee of Supply Mr. Hadfield, who, though he has passed the ancient natural limit of human life by twelve years—is, in short, eighty-three years of age—is still energetically working for the good of his country, moved a resolution on statute-law revision. "Statute-law revision!" some of our readers may say; "what does that mean?" Well, it means, we suppose, at least this—the revision and the editing of the statute law—clearing out of the books which contain it all repealed laws, and appending good indexes; so that any man wanting to know what the law is upon any subject, may with no great difficulty find it. That there is need for this to be done, an extract from Mr. Hadfield's speech will prove at once. "The statute law of England," he says, "is comprised in forty-six quarto volumes, each volume containing from 800 to 1000 closely-printed pages. My set occupies three shelves in my library, and cost me £130; and when I go to look for a particular statute, I might as well look for a needle in a haystack." There is a great deal of law besides statute law in the widespread, pathless jungle which Mr. Hadfield describes. But has nothing been done to cut paths through this jungle and let in light on the path of poor travellers? Not much. Thirty-six years ago a Statute Law Commission was appointed. That Commission has, Mr. Hadfield tells us, spent £80,000, and still the jungle is pathless and dark as ever. Good Mr. Hadfield moved that the Commission be abolished and the waste of money stopped. The Government opposed this motion. Mr. Hadfield pressed a division, and lost his motion. Now for the puzzle and the explanation. Mr. Gregory—not Mr. George Barrow Gregory, late of the eminent firm of solicitors, Gregory, Rowcliffe, and Gregory, who was in 1868 elected member for East Sussex, but William Henry Gregory, member for Galway county—after the division moved that the National Gallery, the British Museum, and the museum in Jermyn-street be opened on Sundays, and meant to divide the House upon it, but could not. And this is the reason why. The original question put by the Speaker was, "That I do now leave the chair." Mr. Hadfield's amendment took this form, "That all the words after that be left out, 'in order to insert the words of his amendment, which we need not give verbatim.' The question put by the Speaker was, 'That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question.' The House decided that these words should stand part of the question; or, in other terms, that these words should not be left out to make room for Hadfield's amendment. Well, the House having decided that the words should not be left out, Mr. Gregory obviously could not propose again that they should be left out in order to insert his amendment. He might talk about his subject as long as he liked, but neither he nor anybody else could that night move another amendment. Here, then, is the puzzle and its solution.

## A JUNGLE.

But what about the jungle? The jungle? Why, it will remain as it is—pathless, dark, undrained, confused, chaotic—as long, probably, as the youngest of our readers shall live. The men who could do the requisite feat of engineering are the lawyers, and how can this be expected of them? "What, deprive us," says Carlyle, "of our wigs and lucrative longwindedness!" you might as well expect the guides in the district to make roads up Helvellyn and light them with gas. Cromwell tried to get a law reform, but it was too difficult a work for even him to achieve. Meanwhile the jungle is ever growing in extent, and ever getting denser and darker, and what it will come to at last goodness only knows. Perhaps we shall have to adopt the opinions of a reflective omnibus driver. "Sir," said he to us, as we rode with him soon after he had been fined 40s., "it's my opinion, as to this law business, we shall have some day to stop, and back, and start afresh."

## A NASTY QUESTION.

Why did Mr. Hadfield divide the House, knowing, as he must have known, that by so doing he would estop, as the lawyers say, Mr. Gregory? Perhaps Mr. Hadfield for that very reason pushed a division, for it is notorious that Mr. Hadfield is opposed to Mr. Gregory's motion. Whether this were so we cannot tell; but the opponents of Mr. Gregory were very glad thus to get rid of his motion; and, indeed, so were many who approved of it. This question of opening the National Gallery, &c., on Sunday is one of our so-called "nasty questions." The constituencies are divided upon it, and whenever it is brought before the House many of the members, the borough members especially, are placed in a dilemma, or what the Yankees call a "fix." If they vote "no," the working people are offended; if they vote "ay," Little Bethel is in arms. Do what they will, they offend somebody; and if they do not vote at all, they offend everybody. It is not surprising, then, that most of the members were delighted to get rid of this nasty question by means of a side-wind.

## HOW AND WHY MR. GREGORY HAD A COUNT-OUT.

Members had been whipped up both to support and oppose this proposal; but, after the division on Mr. Hadfield's motion, knowing that there could be no division on the Sunday question, they wandered away to dine at home or at their clubs, instead of dining at the House; and so it happened that about a quarter past eight, whilst Mr. Thomas Chambers, the pious member for Marylebone, was eloquently denouncing Mr. Gregory's godless proposal, the House dwindled down to some thirty-five members. Here was a temptation to put a stop at once to the hon. member's futile talk, and close summarily what threatened to be a wearisome debate, and get a holiday. As soon as the temptation was presented, its fascination became irresistible to some dozen members lounging about. To make all safe, a few more men were persuaded to come out, and this done, an hon. member—the name of him not to be divulged—sidled up to Mr. Speaker's chair, and whispered in his ear, "Sir, there are not forty members present." Whereupon, Mr. Speaker rose. Mr. Chambers had to drop into his seat. The two-minute sand-glass was turned, and the doorkeeper rang his bell. And now, if the watchers at the door can keep out all members who are out, the count-out will be achieved. But this could not be effectually done; and so, when Mr. Speaker counted heads there were found to be, including himself, just forty present, and the world did not lose the finishing sentences of Mr. Chambers's speech, as he feared it would. But, *nil desperandum*; we will try again. We must get more members out. So! now try. C. you go and tell the Speaker. C. went, and this time, when Mr. Speaker counted, he could only find thirty-five heads, and the House immediately adjourned, to the satisfaction of nearly all present.

## TWO MEMBERS DISAPPOINTED.

Of nearly all, that is; but not quite. Mr. Eastwick had a notice upon the paper to call attention to the state of affairs in Central Asia, and a speech prepared for delivery; and in the clever head of Mr. Grant Duff, the Under-Secretary for our Indian Department, an elaborate reply had long been effervescing. These two, then, were, we may be sure, disappointed. Mr. Eastwick has been singularly unfortunate. Before the Whituntide holidays the House was counted out, just as he was about to rise to deliver himself of his burden; and now, again, he was balked. He and Mr. Grant Duff both had to pack up their papers, and must bear their burden nobody knows how long. Men experienced in such matters tell us that it is exceedingly unpleasant to have to carry about with you a burden of this kind. Moreover, speeches, when once cooked, should be promptly delivered. Like mutton-chops, as soon as they are done they should be served, or they will get to be hard and insipid. The Government whips tried, or made a show of trying, to keep the House specially for these two. They appealed *ad misericordiam* to the Liberal members to go in and keep the House, but without success. A walk across the park, with a quiet dinner at home afterwards, was more attractive than anything Mr. Eastwick and Mr. Grant Duff could offer. And this is not surprising. How can

jaded, hungry men be expected to prefer a discourse upon Central Asia to rest and a quiet dinner? Nevertheless, we hope we shall get Mr. Grant Duff's speech some day; for Central Asia and the Russian autocrat's doings there are involved in mystery. And if it be in the power of mortal man to disperse the mystery, our able and accomplished Under-Secretary for India is the man to do it.

## LIBERAL PARTY DEFIANT.

We now come to Monday night, and the first sitting of the House after that portentous meeting of Conservative peers at the Duke of Marlborough's, in St. James's-square, last Saturday, threatening the destruction of the Irish Church Bill. A collision between the two Houses—a hurrying up of the business of the Session—a prorogation for a few days—a meeting again of Parliament in August, to sit probably through September—fierce agitation and excitement, meanwhile, throughout the country—and last, not least, involving our presence here when we ought to be on the moors, or the mountains, or at our country seats, or by the sad sea waves! Here was a prospect before us when the House met on Monday. Nevertheless, we must not flinch. We must stand by our leader shoulder to shoulder. And what say you? Ought we not to let him know that we are stanch to a man by greeting him with a royal salute of cheers when he enters the House? Capital idea that: and as soon as it had found utterance it spread, as light spreads, through every part of the House where members do congregate, and at once they began rapidly to converge to the Government side of the House; and at half-past four, the time when the Prime Minister usually arrives, the benches on the right of the Speaker were closely packed with members. But we must do the thing well. Gladstone usually comes in at the back of the Speaker's chair and drops immediately into his seat. To make the ovation dramatic and effective this must be prevented. He must be sent back and enter through the front door, and march up the House to his place; and this was done. When he made his appearance at the back door he was met by some friends clustered there, and told resolutely that he must go round; and, of course, he obeyed. And now every eye was fixed upon the front door, and when he emerged through the doorway he was met with a volley of cheers the like of which for precision and heartiness we have rarely heard, followed by another, and yet another; indeed, we know not how many. The cheering did not die away till some seconds after Mr. Gladstone had taken his seat; and these cheers, reader, were not merely an ovation. They were also a hearty expression of loyalty to the great leader of the party and a defiant challenge to the Peers; and if Lord Derby could but have been present and heard the cheering and seen the excited faces of the serried phalanx of his foes, surely he would have quailed. Clearly, there is no shirking nor flinching here. Never once in modern history was a Minister supported by such a strong, loyal, impenetrable party as this. "It is," said one, "like our bill; our enemies cannot get a chisel into it."

## PUSHING ON THE WORK.

On Tuesday there was a morning sitting, and from two to seven the House, in Committee, was busy amending the bankruptcy law. Many times this said bankruptcy law has been amended, but somehow it was always the worse for mending; and now Parliament is hammering at it again. In other words, we are again weaving a net to catch insolvent debtors, or rather their assets, which somehow hitherto, however ingeniously the net was constructed, have always escaped through the meshes and got into the pockets of lawyers, official assignees, &c., and not into those of the creditors; but now, if it so please the gods, a more ingenious net is to be woven. Will it be a success? Doubtful, that, we should say. The weaving was suspended at seven, to be resumed on Friday morning. There is, you see, no want of diligence, if there were but adequate skill. There are more reasons than one why the bill should be hurried on. The Irish Church Bill excepted, this is almost the one great measure of the Session, and, if possible, it must be passed. But, if it be not got through the House speedily it may be lost; for if the Lords should throw out the Irish Church Bill next week, all but absolutely necessary bills will have to be dropped, that the House may vote supplies as rapidly as possible, that Parliament may be prorogued, to be summoned again in a few weeks—in a fortnight, or even in less time, say the oracles. William III., of blessed memory, prorogued Parliament from Oct. 21 to Oct. 23, 1689, "in order to renew the Bill of Rights, concerning which a difference of opinion had arisen between the two Houses that was fatal to its progress." Here, then, is a precedent in point. Let us hope, though, that the Lords will not throw out the bill. A friend of ours proved, as he thought, by incontestable logic, that they will pass the bill. "None but fools," he said, "would take such a mad step. The Lords are not fools—*ergo*, they will not take such a step." But a friend standing by exclaimed, "I dispute your premises." At the evening sitting we discussed the Abyssinian War costs—nine millions to kill a savage! It is a large sum; but why cry over spilt milk, or dance round a dead dog?

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Viscount STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE called attention to the question of the Alabama claims, apropos of a motion of which he had given notice, to the effect that "a copy of any treaty concluded between the Chief Secretary for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of the United States Government respecting the so-called Alabama claims be laid on the table." Having stated that his motion had been rendered unnecessary by the Government, of their own volition, laying the papers on the table, the noble Viscount expressed satisfaction with an explanation that had been given to him privately in reference to the subject matter of his motion, and a hope that the arrival in this country of Mr. Motley would have the effect of removing some of, if not all, the ill-effects of Mr. Sumner's speech. The Earl of CLARENDON, after deprecating as unnecessary a lengthened discussion of this subject and bearing a passing testimony to the earnestness and sincerity of Mr. Reverdy Johnson, proceeded to trace the history of the negotiations that had taken place. His conclusion was that the present and the past Governments had done everything in their power to meet the wishes of the Government of the United States, and he assured the House that a friendly feeling existed between the Governments of the two countries. He regarded the presence of Mr. Motley in England as a good omen for the future; but, as he had not yet had an interview with that gentleman, he could not say anything with regard to the nature of his instructions.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE NAVAL RESERVE.

Mr. CHILDERS, replying to an inquiry of Mr. Goulley, stated in general terms that the Admiralty had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct and services of the Coastguard and Naval Reserve men employed during the late cruise of the Channel squadron, and that he hoped by the end of the year the whole of the Coastguard fleet would be composed of efficient armoured ships. Then the Government would have at their command within a few hours a squadron of nine ironclads to supplement the Channel squadron.

#### THE STATUTE LAW COMMISSIONS.

Mr. HADFIELD moved, and Mr. L. KING seconded, a resolution to the effect that the Royal Commissions of 1833 and 1845 and the measures for the revision of the statute law having occasioned an expenditure of £80,619 5s. 1d., and the results being unsatisfactory, it was expedient to discontinue the present course of proceeding and the expenditure consequent thereon.

After some discussion, in which Mr. Gladstone, Mr. H. Palmer, Mr. Ayrton, and the Attorney-General took part, the House divided, and the motion was rejected by 217 to 64.

#### OPENING OF MUSEUMS, ETC., ON SUNDAYS.

A debate was next raised by Mr. W. H. GREGORY, who had put a motion on the paper in favour of opening to the public the Kensington, Jermyn-street, and British Museums, and the National Gallery, after the hour of Divine service on Sunday, but was brought to a premature close by the House being counted out soon after eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 7.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE IRISH CHURCH.

The Earl of DEVON, in presenting a petition from the clergy of Exeter against the Irish Church Bill, took occasion to observe that he could not

concur in its prayer, believing that it would be a serious public misfortune if their Lordships refused to give the bill a second reading, so that any amendments that were necessary might be introduced into it in Committee.

#### METROPOLITAN DISTRICT RAILWAY.

On the order for reading the Metropolitan District Railway Bill the third time the Duke of RUTLAND moved a clause making it obligatory on the company to provide smoking-carriages; but the clause was rejected by 73 to 36. The bill then passed the final stage.

#### PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On consideration of the report of amendments to the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill, a proposal by the Duke of RICHMOND, that the central board should consist of three paid members, was carried against the Government by 84 to 49.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE RIOTS AT MOLD.

Mr. BRUCE, in answer to Mr. O. Morgan, gave an account of the circumstances of the deplorable riot at Mold. The right hon. gentleman was interrupted, towards the close of his statement, by a most enthusiastic burst of cheering which greeted Mr. Gladstone on his entrance into the House.

#### THE PURCHASE OF THE TELEGRAPH LINES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, in answer to Mr. Hunt, that, as the arrangements for the purchase of the telegraph lines by Government were not yet completed, it would be premature to make any announcement regarding them.

#### ASSESSED RATES BILL.

Mr. GOSCHEN then moved the second reading of the Assessed Rates Bill, explaining, at the same time, the three amendments which are to be proposed in Committee, and which will re-introduce the practice of compounding, with proper securities against its former abuses.

Mr. CORRANCE moved an amendment for the rejection of the measure, but it was not seconded; and, after a discussion, the bill was read the second time.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE LIFE PEERAGES BILL.

Earl RUSSELL moved that the House agree to the amendments on the Life Peerages Bill.

The Duke of ARGYLL hoped that if the measure was passed and sent to the Commons their Lordships would explain that their object was not to add to the political strength of their House or to enable them to withstand the ultimate decisions of the country as expressed in the other House, but to enable a number of literary, judicial, and other distinguished men to be created life peers, and to add to the interest and reality of the debates in their Lordships' House.

The Marquis of SALISBURY supported the bill; which was opposed by Lord HOUGHTON and the Earl of MALMESBURY, the last-named peer moving that the report be agreed to that day six months, his main reason for so doing being that, if the bill were sent to the other House, it would expose their Lordships to debates which would be very unpleasant to them.

After a discussion, the Earl of Malmesbury withdrew his amendment, and the report was agreed to, Earl Russell promising that he would fix a convenient day for the third reading.

#### CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS.

Their Lordships agreed to the address of the House of Commons praying the Crown to issue commissions of inquiry as to the existence of corrupt practices at the last elections for Bridgewater, Norwich, Beverley, Sligo, and Cashel.

#### THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

The Earl of HARROWBY gave notice that on Monday next he would move to postpone the second reading of the Irish Church Bill till that day three months.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

After Mr. BRUCE had promised Colonel Fortescue that a report on the alleged formation of a bank of sewage across the Thames at Barking should be prepared with all possible diligence, the House, in a morning sitting, went into Committee on the Bankruptcy Bill, in which several amendments were adopted on points of detail.

#### THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

At the evening sitting Mr. CANDLEISH rose to ask for an inquiry into the expenses of the Abyssinian war, which was agreed to after a discussion.

#### MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

On the motion that the House go into Committee on the bill authorising marriage with a deceased wife's sister,

Mr. COLLINS moved an instruction empowering the Committee to amend the bill, so as to enable a woman to marry her deceased husband's brother. At the outset of his remarks the member for Boston involved himself in considerable difficulties with the tables of affinity, and excited expressions of merriment, which accompanied him throughout the greater part of his speech.

The adjournment of the debate was proposed by Mr. SCLATER BOOTH; and the rejection of this motion by a majority of 50—113 to 63, was followed by another for the adjournment of the House, which, after the usual wrangling and appealing from one side of the House and the other, was negatived by 35—98 to 63. Again the adjournment of the debate was proposed, and was at last agreed to without a division.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### IRISH BILLS.

The House was chiefly occupied with the consideration of two Irish bills—that of Mr. O'Reilly, relating to the sale of liquors on Sunday in Ireland; and Mr. Blake's, on the sea fisheries of Ireland. On the order for going into Committee on the first of them, Mr. Murphy proposed as an amendment that, until the present system of licensing in Ireland were remodelled and placed on a new basis, it was inexpedient to proceed further with the consideration of the bill, and that therefore the order should be discharged. This was seconded by Mr. Sherlock, and eventually the measure was withdrawn, upon the Chief Secretary for Ireland undertaking to bring in a bill next Session dealing with the whole system of licensing in Ireland, and not losing sight of the Sunday closing question.

In moving the second reading of his Sea Fisheries (Ireland) Bill, Mr. Blake explained that it had three principal objects, the first of which was to take the fisheries from the control of the Treasury and the Board of Works and transfer them to that of the Lord Lieutenant. Next, to remove all existing restrictions on the modes of fishing; and, lastly, to grant loans for the erection of curing-houses, and to enable fishermen also, upon satisfactory security, to obtain loans for the purchase and repair of boats and gear. The hon. member expressed the belief that if moderate advances were made to assist in the development of the fisheries it would be the means of providing a remunerative source of employment and an abundant supply of food for the people. After some discussion, Mr. Ayrton remarked that previous legislation on this subject had not been so successful as to encourage the House in continuing in the same direction. The creation of a new department was unnecessary, and would involve an expenditure for which the Government were not prepared to hold themselves responsible. Moreover, the existing law was ample, and Government wished to utilise and make efficient the power it gave. All that was needful might be done by the action of the Lord Lieutenant and the Treasury without legislation; but, if further legislation were requisite, Ministers were willing to do their best to make complete that which was now imperfect. What was required was efficient inspection, and if upon examination and consideration of the matter it appeared that a revision of the law was necessary the Government would themselves deal with the question. Although condemning the proposal to grant loans, and objecting to other portions of the bill, he was nevertheless willing to allow the measure to pass its present stage. Colonel Annesley hoped that, after the exposition made of the views of the Government on the subject, Mr. Blake would withdraw the clause relating to loans, and Mr. Murphy received as satisfactory the announcement that Ministers were willing to agree to the second reading. At length the discussion closed, with the acceptance by the mover of the terms offered by the Government, and the bill was read the second time upon the understanding that it should not be further proceeded with.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

The House subsequently went into Committee on the Sunday Trading Bill, but without making any progress. The Municipal Franchise Bill was read the third time and passed; the Companies Clauses Act (1863) Amendment Bill was read the second time; and the Poor Relief (Ireland) Act (1862) Amendment Bill was passed the final stage. Leave was given to Mr. A. Johnston to bring in a bill to extend certain provisions of the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868; and, on the motion of Mr. G. Noel, a new writ was ordered for the election of a member for the borough of Nottingham, in the room of Sir R. Clifton, deceased.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE LAW AS TO BRIBERY AND INTIMIDATION.

Mr. J. S. HARDY asked the Attorney-General whether a candidate declared personally guilty of undue influence was subject to the same penalties and disqualifications as one convicted of personal bribery; and, if not, whether it was the intention of the Government to amend the law in that respect?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the law made both offences equally punishable; and in either case the offender would be disqualified from occupying a seat in Parliament.

#### THE ARMY RESERVE.

Upon the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply upon the Army Estimates,



Lord ELCHO complained of the very inefficient Army reserve of this country, whilst other Continental nations had at their command a reserve which could be called upon for action at a very small notice. The noble Lord concluded by moving the resolution—"That, in the opinion of this House, the establishment of a sufficient Army reserve is a matter of urgent need."

Mr. ACKROYD considered the volunteer force was the best adapted for becoming an efficient adjunct to the Army.

Viscount BURY maintained that the militia and volunteers must be made more efficient, and welded into one homogeneous whole with the Line.

Colonel NORTH remarked that if a Committee were appointed he hoped it would be composed of efficient members. He was in favour of a substantial reserve, which we certainly did not possess at present.

Mr. BRAND was in favour of an efficient reserve force, and to provide this reserve more care should be taken with respect to the militia if they were to become eventually good soldiers.

Colonel GILPIN said Lord Elcho wished particularly to introduce the ballot system into the militia, but he did not quite see how that system was to act, and he hoped the Government would not consent to its introduction. Mr. CARDWELL acknowledged the public spirit which had influenced Lord Elcho in bringing this question forward. He had already fully gone into the subject of the reserve; and he assured the House that the whole subject was engaging his most earnest attention and the attention of the Government.

After some remarks from several hon. members, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON said he thought the speech of the Secretary for War full of promises; but, considering the time which had elapsed since the Army Estimates had been introduced, he regretted there had not been more performance and less talk.

Captain VIVIAN defended Mr. Cardwell, and said that Sir John Pakington had done nothing to create a reserve during the two years he had been in office, and therefore he ought to be the last man to taunt the Government with inaction.

The motion was then withdrawn.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1869.

#### FREE TRADE.

SOME time ago the magistrate at Bow-street fined, for infringing the privileges of the Post Office, the representative of a company which undertook the delivery of circulars for a lump sum. That sum was considerably less than what the delivery of the circulars by the Post Office would have cost the senders; but the sum is immaterial. The question was one of law and principle. According to the actual state of the law, could the Circular Delivery Company deliver letters of any kind whatever for a pecuniary consideration and yet not be held to infringe the monopoly of the Government department? That was the question, and it really seemed as if something was to be said on both sides, so the defendants appealed against the conviction. That, however, has been decisively affirmed by the higher court, the Judge observing that the case is too clear even to need arguing. It may be so; but it certainly appears to us that even upon the point of law there is room for a little hair-splitting.

Suppose, in a case of emergency, a man paid for a special express-engine upon some railway line, and intrusted fifty letters to some man who went by it, paying him for delivering them—would the man who received the payment be breaking the law? Suppose you are in the habit of sending fifty letters a day to some spot easily accessible by a quick train—say Richmond. Each of the letters, we will say, would cost 6d., if sent by post. You know a man who lives at Richmond, or who has some reason for going to it every day just about the hour at which you wish your letters to reach their destination. The addresses of your letters all lie, we will suppose, in one line, so that it pays this man to deliver them for 2d. apiece, while you have the advantage of getting your letters delivered much more quickly than the same thing could be done by the Post Office. Unless the man is your servant, this is a breach of the law. But then what is a "servant"? Suppose this is a regular thing, and you pay the man weekly, calling the money wages, does that make him your servant? And if not, why not? And if fifty people all agree to employ him, and pay him weekly, why is he not as much the "servant" of those fifty people as a waiter at a club is the servant of the members of the club? Again, suppose a man were to-morrow to invent some new method of conveyance much more rapid than any that is employed by the Post Office—say, a method by which he could send a letter a hundred miles in five minutes, and were to begin to convey letters by it for less than the Post Office charge, he would clearly be committing a breach of the law. The Post Office might at the same time refuse to adopt his invention, and punish him for doing a thing of obvious public utility. It certainly seems impossible to justify the Post Office monopoly on any ground of principle; and even looking at the question upon the lower ground of expediency, most people will think that the interference with the Circular Delivery Company, however necessary the Post Office authorities may have thought it, places a great public department in an invidious light, and raises a question which will not be allowed to sleep.

To turn to another topic, the Society of Arts have just had a discussion about the cabs of the metropolis, and some of the cab proprietors spoke strongly in favour of absolute free trade, demanding the abolition of police and all other inspection, and (though this is only incidental) complaining bitterly of the conduct of the authorities of Scotland yard. These men say they believe that entire free trade in cabs would be immediately followed by "the introduction of a superior article into the market," and the appearance upon

the cab-stands of a much better class of men. As far as the legal interference with the fares charged is concerned, we should unhesitatingly declare for its removal. The man who sells you a ride to your house has as much right to charge his own price for the commodity as the butcher who sells you the leg of mutton you eat when you reach home. But with regard to licensing—supposing that to be, what it ought to be, merely a form of registration—the cabman or the omnibus conductor by no means stands upon the same footing as your butcher. He is a nomad, with whom you come into none but the most casual relations. Yet he must be made amenable to the laws which relate to such matters as drunkenness, fraud, assault, recklessness, and so on, just like other people. Now, as he is a bird of passage, with no local habitation or name, it follows that the only way of making sure of being able to enforce the law against him is to register and number him, so that he may be traceable at any moment. But we feel quite sure that Mr. Lowe, of all men in the world, would look with favour upon the idea of removing legal restrictions upon the amount of cab fares; and we have no doubt that, ultimately, there will be free trade in cabs.

#### LIBRARIES AND READERS.

It is confidently stated in provincial papers which ought to know the facts—our own immediate informant being the *Liverpool Albion*—that, though the majority of the books in the Free Libraries of Liverpool, Birkenhead, Manchester, Salford, and Birmingham are novels, the demand for works of fiction has much fallen off among the readers, and that the taste for works on science, art, and history is greatly on the increase. In Manchester it is stated that the number of novels in the reading-room is comparatively few, and that even those are seldom asked for.

Intelligent working men are, as a rule, much more ready to tackle "solid" books than clerks and others who have been using their brains and their pens all day long; and most likely the alarm which has lately been raised about the superiority in technical and other culture claimed for German workmen has had some weight with working men in determining their choice of reading. At all events, the facts deserve chronicling. It cannot be said that the average working man does not stand in special need of the peculiar culture which is to be gathered from good works of imagination; but, on the other hand, really good novels are not numerous.

THE LORDS AND THE IRISH CHURCH.—A clergyman of the Church of England writes thus to a contemporary:—"SIR,—Although a warm friend of the Irish Church Disestablishment and Disendowment Bill—albeit a poor beneficed clergyman myself of the United Church—I yet do not regret the step which the Conservative peers have resolved to take, and for the following reason. I cannot but believe that in the discussion hitherto of this great question, whether in Parliament or by the press, by far too little prominence has been given to the fact that the Irish Church is an essential branch of the United Church, and that whatever arguments may be adduced in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish branch are, in a measure, applicable to the English branch as well. Now, believing, as in my conscience I do, and rejoicing as I do in such belief, that the days of the English Church, as a mere State Establishment, are assuredly numbered as those of the Irish, I cannot but most earnestly hope and trust that upon the next occasion of her Majesty's Prime Minister introducing a Church Liberation Bill such measure will have for its object the disestablishment and disendowment, not of the Irish branch merely, but of the United Church herself. I am profoundly convinced that when the bishops of our Church are exempted from the cares and anxieties connected with their position as peers of the realm, we shall hear no more of episcopal incompetency, whether arising from sickness or the infirmities of age. My conviction, too, is no less strong that under a free-church system the precept that "the labourer is worthy of his hire" will be at once recognised as regards those who, at present, are the poor working, but sadly underpaid, clergy of a great State Establishment."

THE RIGHT HON. JOHN BRIGGS, M.P., ON EXCESSIVE PEACE ESTABLISHMENTS.—The fact is, that the system of our Parliament is such that the Estimates, whatever they are, as a rule, are always agreed to, and more and more of the taxes—which means of the hard earnings of the people—are put year by year into that bottomless and insatiable pit into which so many hundreds and thousands of millions have heretofore been cast. I have not referred to any figures in preparation for this meeting, but I suppose that within the last twenty years, or little more, the expenditure of the country has risen by nearly £20,000,000 per annum. I suppose that since the time when the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel were at the head of the Government—a few years after the passing of the Reform Act of 1832—the military expenditure of the Government has been doubled; and all this when the foreign policy of the country has been reformed and changed, and when we do not pretend to undertake to settle all the affairs of Europe, and when we are told continually that her Majesty's relations to other States are of the most amicable kind, and there is not so much as the slightest cloud in the sky. Now, the military expenditure grows notwithstanding. I believe that it is bigger this year than ever in time of peace, and, unless there is a tremendous outcry, it will grow bigger and bigger every year. That the Power which demands more (the great complaint about Oliver Twist was that he was always asking for more, but then Oliver was badly used)—in this case the power that is always asking for more is always present, acting on the Government, it surrounds the Government everywhere. The members of the Government down about Westminster meet people connected with the Army and the Navy and the civil service every hour of the day. The whole power of these expectant services is brought to bear incessantly upon the Government; and if there is no power on the other side, what is the course the Government is likely to take? Of course, it will bend before the force incessantly brought upon it, and you, the complaining people, go on with heavier and heavier burdens, till at last you rise under a sense of intolerable oppression, and bring about some terrible political catastrophe.

LONDON CABS.—A meeting called by the council of the Society of Arts was held on Tuesday morning, in the Adelphi, for the purpose of discussing any practical measures that might be proposed for improving the cab system of the metropolis. Mr. Henry Cole, who presided, in the absence of Lord Henry Lennox, said he considered that the cab interest had received a great benefit from the present Government, inasmuch as Mr. Lowe, who was a man of great genius, had discovered a method for relieving it of a portion of the enormous taxation under which it had hitherto laboured, notwithstanding the unpromising aspect of the general revenue. Mr. J. L. Hadden, C.E., of the Hackney carriage department of the metropolitan police, submitted a plan for a proposed division of London into districts, for the "course" system—in other words, a division into thirty-seven districts, a letter on each lamp indicating the particular district. A table stating the fare from any one district was then, by the assistance of a map, accurately compiled, leaving nothing to the public to do when hiring a cab but to look at the nearest lamp for the initial letter or figure, repeating the operation when discharging the vehicle, referring to the table for the fare. By an arbitrary system of fares any class of superior cabs could with great facility be supplied with tables of fares at a higher rate in proportion to their superiority. As an instance of the sort of extortion which cabmen practised, he mentioned the fact of a person coming from Rangoon a few days ago and arriving at the Victoria station. He requested to be driven to the Grosvenor Hotel, the back of which adjoins the station, and the cabman demanded 5s. He offered 3s. 6d.; but the cabman abused him so much that he paid the 5s. to get rid of him. Mr. Meiklejohn proposed a division of London by a line from east to west (partly by the river Thames), with lines running at right angles, with squares of a quarter of a mile each. These squares were marked by letters and numbers, which would be marked at street corners. The inventor stated that by his system no guide-book or list of fares would be needed. The meeting proceeded to discuss these points, together with the question of fares, free trade in cabs, stations licenses, and inspection.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and suite will leave Balmoral for Windsor, according to present arrangements, either on Tuesday, the 15th, or Thursday, the 17th inst.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, with several other Royal personages, were present, on Tuesday, on Ascot-heath, the occasion being the opening day of the race meeting. The weather being gloriously fine, there was also a large attendance of the general public on that and the subsequent days of the meeting.

THE PRINCE OF WALES will open the new West Dock at Hull on Thursday, July 22.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES will visit Manchester on the occasion of the approaching show of the Royal Agricultural Society.

PRINCE ARTHUR has expressed his intention to be present at the annual festival, to be held at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., on behalf of the funds of University College Hospital, on which occasion Prince Christian will preside.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, who had been on a visit to Sir James Clarke, at Bagshot Park, since the early part of the week, returned to Frogmore House last Saturday. Her Royal Highness is said to have quite recovered from her recent indisposition.

THE WIFE OF THE CZAREWICH (Princess Dagmar) gave birth to a boy on Monday, which has received the name of Alexander.

THE COUNTESS DE FLANDRE gave birth to a son a few days ago, so that an heir has again been born to the Belgian Crown.

THE SULTAN has conferred the title of Pacha on Sir Samuel Baker, in order to show the interest he takes in the success of Sir Samuel's expedition.

COUNT BISMARCK has now so far recovered his health that he is able, supported by a stick, to take walks in his park.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER, it is stated, is about to resign his see.

CONVOCAION will meet for the dispatch of business on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

THE QUEEN'S "Leaves from a Journal of Our Life in the Highlands," have been translated into Portuguese by Mr. George Temple, and published by Messrs. Trübner and Co.

THE STAFFORD ELECTION, on Tuesday, resulted in the return of the Conservative candidates, Captain Salt and the Hon. Reginald Talbot.

THE STATE APARTMENTS OF WINDSOR CASTLE will be closed on and after Monday next, the 14th inst., until further orders.

GENERAL PEEL is to be presented with the testimonial lately subscribed for in Huntingdon, at a public dinner in the Corn Exchange of that town, on July 14.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH has been invited by the trustees of Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, to deliver an address at its commencement.

HAYMAKING has been commenced in the south-western districts. Apparently the crop will be a heavy one.

THE RIGHT HON. HENRY T. L. CORRY is, it is stated, about to retire from the representation of the county of Tyrone, in consequence of declining health, and it is expected that his son will be M.P. in his stead.

TWO FIRES that occurred on Monday are reported to have been caused by the excessive heat of the sun. One was in Lambeth, the other at Millwall.

BENJAMIN HIGGS was, on Tuesday, adjudicated a bankrupt on the petition of a private creditor.

THE MAYOR OF BIRMINGHAM has, in compliance with a numerously-signed requisition, called a meeting for Monday next in the Townhall, to "consider the course adopted by the Conservative peers with reference to the Irish Church Bill."

THE STEAM-YACHT built by Messrs. Harvey, of Wivenhoe, for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, has made a favourable trial-trip. She is to be named the Alexandra.

THE FOLLOWING CURIOUS ADVERTISEMENT appeared in the *Record* last week:—"The friends of an evangelical clergyman, having two thousand guineas at command, can obtain a position of eminence for him. Address —."

A PRINTER NAMED JOHNSON, from Dublin, was arrested, on Tuesday, at Cork, for circulating treasonable documents among the military and police, urging them to desert and to enter the gunshops and take arms.

AN ENGLISHMAN of the name of Powell, who went to Abyssinia on a shooting expedition, has been murdered by the natives, together with his wife and children, and two missionaries.

A VERY SERIOUS BOILER EXPLOSION occurred, on Wednesday, at Bingley, near Bradford. Several persons were killed, many wounded, and much cottage property was destroyed. A railway collision took place near Leeds, on Wednesday, but none of the passengers were hurt.

A MEETING of the leading Liberals of Newcastle has been held—Mr. Joseph Cowen, jun., presiding—and arrangements were made for holding a great mass meeting on the Town Moor in support of the Government in the event of the House of Lords rejecting the Irish Church Bill.

TEN STEAM-SHIPS left Liverpool last week for the United States and Canada, with nearly 7000 passengers, most of whom were emigrants, principally Germans, Swedes, and Norwegians, the remainder being Irish and English.

THE OBSEQUIES OF THE LATE LORD BROUGHTON (Sir J. Cam Hobhouse) were solemnised on Wednesday. His Lordship's remains were removed from his late residence in Berkeley-square and deposited in the family vault in Kensal-green Cemetery. The funeral cortege consisted of a hearse and four horses and six mourning-coaches.

AT JERSEY, on Sunday, the thermometer at noon reached 108 degrees. Two deaths resulted from the great heat. In one case, Mr. John Hubert, aged sixty, was suddenly taken ill, and a medical man declared it was a case of sunstroke. Mr. Abraham Viel, a builder, in Great Union-road, whilst walking along the street, was suddenly struck down by the sun. He died almost immediately.

MR. JULES LABLOND, of Bond-street, was last Saturday fined forty shillings and costs, by Mr. Tyrwhitt, for having allowed young women in his employ to work after the prescribed hours on Saturday, the 15th ult. Mr. Jessie Pettit, of the same street, was fined twenty shillings and costs for a similar offence.

THE HOUSES OF FOUR FARMERS at Kyleman, Tipperary, were fired into on Sunday night by a party of men. No one appears to have been injured. The outrage is said to have had some connection with the issue of a recent notice of increase of rent.

THE DISPUTES in the building trades at Wigan, Blackburn, and Over Darwen, come no nearer settlement, and an effort has been made to extend the strike to Ormskirk and other neighbouring towns. At Blackburn the carpenters and joiners are expected to go on strike on Saturday next.

CONCESSIONS have been granted for a telegraph scheme to connect the British India telegraphic system with a line from Bangkok, through Siam and Cambodia, to Saigon, and thence to Cape St. James or Cape Padaran, from which a submarine cable will be laid to Hong Kong.

A PETITION has been lodged against the return of Mr. Guest for Yonghal, on the grounds that he was the nominee of Mr. Weguelin, and that Mr. Weguelin acted as his agent and canvassed for him; also that Mr. Guest was guilty of corrupt practices. The petition prays that the election may be declared void.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE NEWSPAPER-PRESS FUND took place, at Willis's Rooms, last Saturday, under the presidency of Lord Houghton, who announced himself as merely the substitute for Mr. Reverdy Johnson, that gentleman having promised, some months since, to take the chair. Lord Houghton proposed the toast of the evening, in a very graceful speech.

TWO BOYS, named King and Eldon, went, on Monday, to bathe in a stream at Thorney Breads, West Drayton, known as Godfrey's Waters, which is at least 12 ft. deep in some parts. King could swim, but the other boy could not. After they had bathed some time, Eldon slipped and got out of his depth. King made a bold attempt to rescue him, but, being dragged down by the drowning boy, both were drowned.

THERE are some 25,000 persons dependent for a living on the wrought-nail trade in the East Worcestershire district of the "black country," and they have of late suffered great hardships through the introduction of machinery. Two thousand of the nailers in the neighbourhood of Bromsgrove are now on strike, and it is feared that they will soon be joined by the rest of the men in the trade.

ELEVEN POLICEMEN have been charged with manslaughter for their conduct in suppressing the disturbance that arose at Derry on the occasion of Prince Arthur's visit. One has been discharged, and ten have been committed for trial. A second disturbance of no mean order took place in court during the inquiry, owing to the differences of opinion among those who sat on the bench.

LORD HARROWBY was a member of Lord Palmerston's Government, and, writes "A Liberal Peer," was then remarkable for the same fanaticism and illiberal policy which now distinguish him. His name will be found in the division-list of June 23, 1856, against the Oaths Abjuration Bill, the object of which was the admission of Jews to Parliament; and notwithstanding that he voted on that occasion against the rest of his colleagues he continued to hold the Privy Seal.

A MEETING OF CONSERVATIVES was held at the City Terminus Hotel, on Monday, under the presidency of Mr. John Chubb, to protest against the Irish Church Bill. Several of the speakers announced themselves as deputations from Church and Presbyterian bodies in Ireland. The resolutions carried were of the ordinary kind, and they nearly all contained expressions of confidence in the House of Lords.



## FIVE LIBERAL DEPUTIES OF THE SEINE.

## FIVE LIBERAL DEPUTIES FOR THE SEINE.

M. EUGENE PELLETAN, whose name is the most familiar to English readers among those of the five Liberal deputies of the Seine whose portraits we this week publish, is a native of Royan (Charente Inférieure), where he was born in 1813. His father was a notary, and sent the boy first to Poitiers, and afterwards to Paris, to go through the regular academical course. In



JULES SIMON.

1837 he became connected with literature, and ever since that time has been a journalist, novelist, and writer on philosophy and belles lettres. In 1863 he was elected to the Legislature, and has taken part in most of the debates which have arisen since that time.

M. Louise Joseph Ernest Picard is a genuine Parisian, and was born on Dec. 24, 1831. In 1844 he was called to the Bar, and two years afterwards took his doctor's degree. He was first elected to the Legislative Body to represent the fifth circonscription of the Seine in 1858, and has never since lost his seat.

M. Jules Francois Simon Suisse, who is known as Jules Simon, is a Breton, and has reached his fifty-fifth year. He was born at Lorient (Morbihan), on Dec. 31, 1814, and commenced life as a teacher, having obtained the appointment of second master at the College of Rennes. In 1832 he entered the normal school, and, after having occupied the philosophical chair at the Lyceum of Caen, he was recalled to Paris by M. Cousin, of whom he was the most promising scholar. The works of M. Simon exhibit remarkable powers of style and composition. He was nominated as their deputy by one of the Paris constituencies in 1863.

M. Desiré Bancel is a new deputy, and was born at Valence (Drôme) in 1823. His father, a well-known doctor, who had gained the regard of the poor for his skill and benevolence, died only last year. When the Revolution of 1848 broke out M. Bancel, who was then twenty-five years old, and had been an ardent student, was occupying himself with the subject of public credit and the science of finance. The new Republic had no more faithful servant than the young enthusiast, who desired to make the new régime one of union and peace. M. Bancel, the pupil of Michelet and Quinet, was a fluent and eloquent speaker even at that time, and he went about the country pleading for fraternity, and, as a sort of political apostle, spoke in barns or fields wherever there was an audience. He became immensely popular; and in the general election of 1849 was nominated as the representative of Drôme, for which he took his seat on the left in the Legislative Assembly. His influence was still very great, and his sweet and yet powerful voice could always be heard in the Chamber. The



DESIRÉ BANCEL.

events of the coup-d'état sent him into exile; but he came back stronger and more matured, able to write as well as to speak with more real force. He had expanded on the Flemish soil, where he had occupied himself with study; and he is again one of the most popular men in Paris.

M. Leon Gambetta is ten years younger than M. Bancel, being only thirty-five. He was born at Cahors, whence he was sent to school at Montauban. He is distinguished for oratorical tact, and is already popular among the Parisians; perhaps not without some

reference to his southern name, which is striking, easily remembered, and easily shouted. Gambetta, like Bancel, possesses a voice of remarkable flexibility and sweetness; and these qualifications, united to rapid and illustrative oratory, are sufficient to secure a large degree of attention. He is really a remarkable speaker however, and seemed to carry all before him during his election canvass.

## THE MONARCH IRON TURRET-SHIP.

THIS vessel was built at Chatham, from designs by Mr. E. J. Reed, Constructor of the Navy. Her dimensions are as follow:—Length between perpendiculars, 330 ft.; extreme breadth, 57 ft. 6 in.; depth of hold, 18 ft. 6 in.; burden, in tons, 2098 70-94ths. The lower hull has a double skin, and the armour-plates, of 6 in. thickness, have a backing of 12 in. of wood; the inner skin being 1½ in. in thickness. The two turrets have 10 in. of armour, worked on to a teak backing of 8 in., covering a double inner skin of ½ in. plating; the fabric being strengthened by 7 in. framing. Two 25-ton guns, working on revolving machinery, are placed in each turret, these turret-guns being carried out between 16 ft. and 17 ft. above the water. From the Monarch being fitted with a top-gallant fore-castle on her upper deck, the turret-guns will not possess an all-round fire—each gun being, in fact, limited to a very small degree of training. This drawback is, however, in a measure compensated by the construction of a formidable armour-plated bow battery, in which are placed two of the 6½-ton guns, while a similar battery at the stern will mount one 6½-ton gun, the whole of these bow and stern guns being able to be fired in a direct line with the vessel's keel. The portion of the vessel occupied by the turrets and funnel is further protected by armour-plated bulkheads, running fore and aft, rising from the main to the upper deck. The bulwarks within range of the turret guns are constructed to fall outwards, while the lower rigging is fitted loose, so as not to interfere with the sweep of the guns.

The lower masts are constructed of iron, the upper masts and yards of wood.

The engines, by Humphrey and Tennant, are of 1100-horse power nominal, working up to 6600 indicated; cylinders 10 ft. diameter; length of stroke, 4 ft. 6 in.; propeller, two-bladed, Griffiths, weighing 22 tons.

## THE NEW ITALIAN MINISTER IN LONDON.

ANOTHER member of the great party which produced Gioberti, Massimo d'Azeglio, and Cavour, has just been appointed to the post of Italian Minister in London. The Chevalier Carlo Cadorna



EUGÈNE PELLETAN.

belongs to that distinguished school of Piedmontese statesmen to whom Italy owes so much. New to diplomacy, he is little known to the terrible brotherhood which, although, alas! losing its best traditions, still jealously watches any invasion of the rights of its members, and suspiciously scans the pedigree of every fresh comer unable to boast many years' routine duty. Chevalier Cadorna has, however, done such good service to his country at home that a short review of his past career will undoubtedly be welcome to those who are soon to make the acquaintance of the new Italian Envoy.

Of good and distinguished birth, he was a successful lawyer at Turin when King Charles Albert granted Piedmont a constitution, and he sat in the first sub-Alpine Parliament for his native town of Pallanza, which he continued to represent till 1858, when he was raised to the Senate. On his first election he gave up his professional business, though very lucrative, to devote himself to Parliamentary and political pursuits. Soon distinguished by his ability, in the ominous last days of 1848, he joined the Gioberti Administration as Minister of Public Instruction. He accompanied the King during the short and disastrous campaign of Novara as the representative of the Cabinet at headquarters; he witnessed the abdication of the noble but ill-fated Monarch, and was immediately afterwards sent to negotiate the preliminaries of an armistice with the Austrian commander-in-chief. In the years that elapsed between these events and 1859 the Chevalier Cadorna devoted himself entirely to Parliamentary life, becoming an extremely influential member. Always siding with the Liberal Constitutional party, he took a leading part in the most important measures brought before the Chamber of Deputies in the course of those busy days of political and social transformation, and greatly contributed to pass the laws on financial reform, commercial treaties, railways, and public education; last, not least, he in 1855 drew up a report on the first bill for the dissolution of convents and other ecclesiastical corporations—an idea then quite new in Italy, but which he first upheld and defended victoriously throughout a long and memorable discussion. After having been for some time Vice-President of the Chamber, in the session ending in 1857 and again in 1858 he was elected President, when in the summer of that year Count Cavour returned from the famous interview of Plombières, and wishing to strengthen his Cabinet in Parliament he offered a seat to Chevalier Cadorna, who was thus for the second time appointed Minister of Public Instruction—a post he retained till the Ministry resigned, after the peace of Villafranca. No sooner was he raised to the dignity of Senator than he became one of the most industrious members of the Upper House, over which he long presided as Vice-President. He

again distinguished himself as the promoter of administrative reform, and introduced the two bills of 1866 and 1867, for the suppression of religious corporations and the secularisation of the Church property. In other departments of legislation he was likewise one of the foremost advocates of freedom, and he strenuously supported the civil marriage law, as the application of the principle of complete separation between Church and State. When the memorable convention of



LEON GAMBETTA.

Sept. 15, 1864, was signed between the Governments of Italy and France, the Chevalier Cadorna did not oppose the transfer of the capital from Turin to Florence; but he joined the small group of Piedmontese politicians who, as the compact had been made, accepted it as an accomplished fact, insisting upon its being strictly executed, in order to avoid fatal divisions in the Italian peninsula and to keep up the useful influence of the old sub-Alpine element in Parliament. In fact, a few days after the sad events of Sept. 21, 22, and 23, when the usually quiet streets of Turin suddenly witnessed the most lamentable scenes of riot and bloodshed, the Chevalier Cadorna published a remarkable pamphlet, in which he explained his views on the subject, and declared that the convention would receive his warm support in the Senate. When the treaty had been voted, General Lamarmora, then Prime Minister, appointed him Prefect of the province of Turin. While discharging this honourable duty he maintained law and order without further wounding the feelings of a population whose self-love and most vital interests had suffered so grievously. He held the post a year; and after the first anniversary of the "ominous days of September," as they are called, things had so much improved as to allow him to resume his place in the Council of State, of which he had for many years been a prominent member. In the stormy days which followed the tragedy of Mentana, when the Government was placed in a very precarious position by the vote of the Elective Chamber of Dec. 22, he was for the third time offered a seat in the Cabinet, and joined the Administration of General Menabrea in the important capacity of Home Minister. His presence in the Ministry greatly contributed to soothe the exasperation of certain parties, to dissipate many a groundless suspicion, and to bring about an understanding between several disunited factions of the Liberals. During his tenure of office he strongly upheld the principles of order and authority, without which true liberty can never flourish, and inaugurated the system for the ultimate repression of brigandage in Southern Italy which proved so successful.

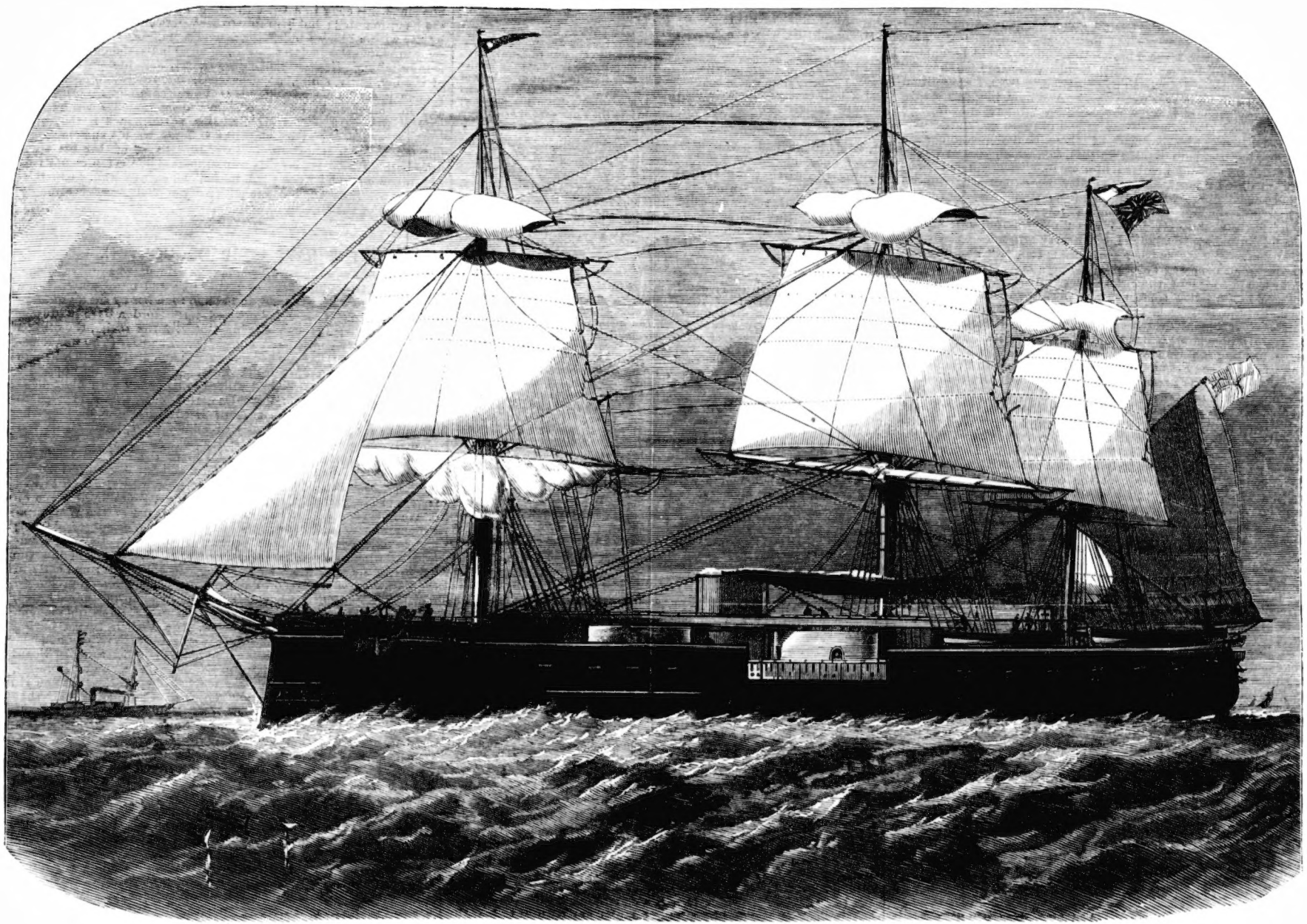


ERNEST PICARD.

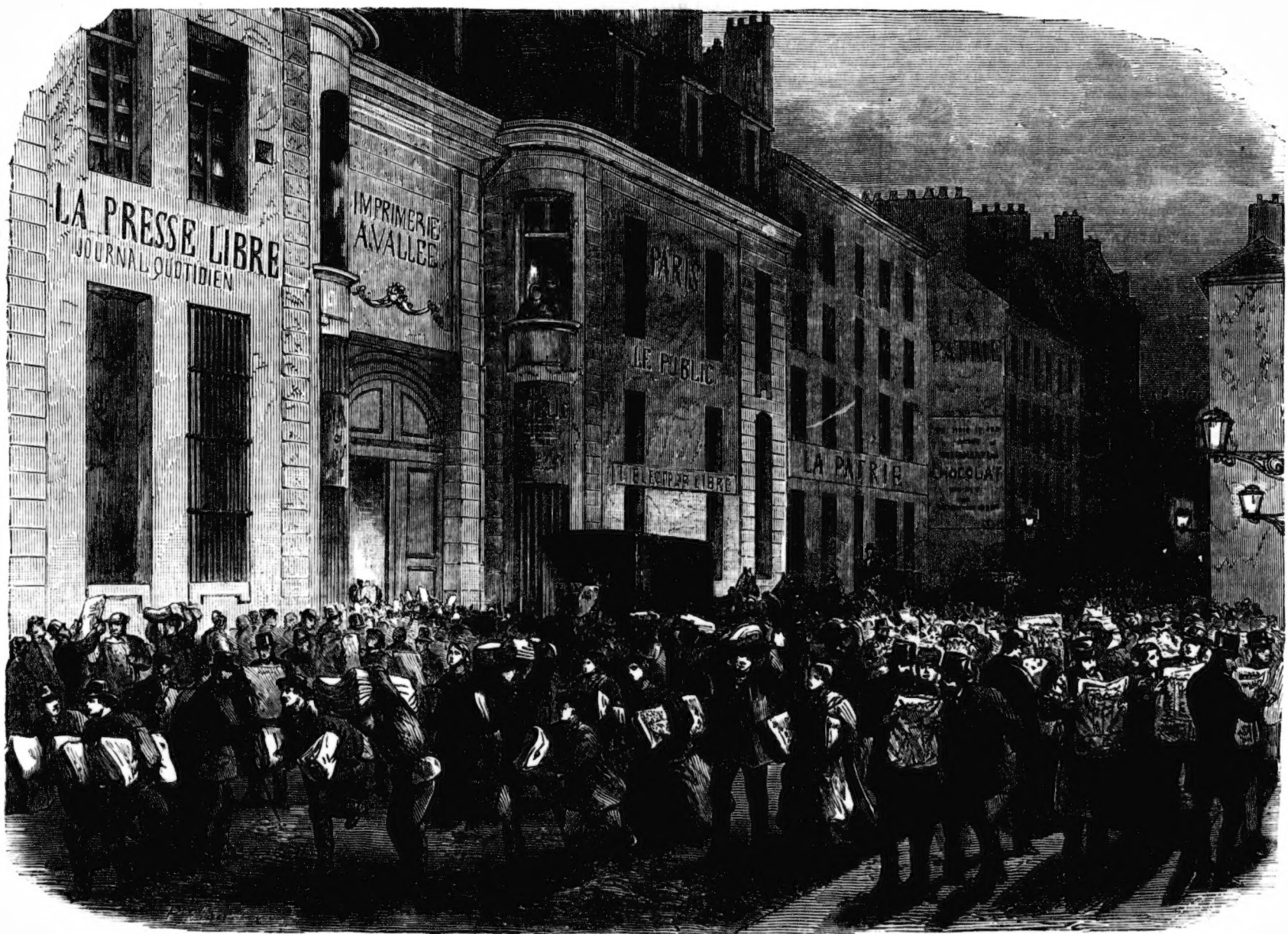
Although he left the Cabinet in September last, he never ceased to give the present Government his powerful support in and out of Parliament.

Such is the statesman the King of Italy has chosen for his representative at this Court, and the high functions intrusted to him are a befitting recognition of his devotion and loyalty to his Sovereign and country. These feelings are a tradition in his family, and his brother is at the present moment one of the most eminent Generals of the Italian army.





HER MAJESTY'S IRON-CLAD TURRET-SHIP MONARCH LEAVING THE THAMES.



THE FRENCH ELECTIONS: SCENE BEFORE THE NEWSPAPER OFFICES IN THE RUE DU CROISSANT.



## THE LOUNGER.

ON Monday last, as I stood looking listlessly into Sams's window at the coloured profiles there, I felt a touch upon my shoulder, and on turning round I saw my old gossip, Mr. Blogg. "My dear Lounger, how are you?" said he. "Why, Blogg," said I, shaking his proffered hand, "what on earth brings you here? I thought you were a naturalised Austrian by this time." "No, I am still an Englishman, and hope ever to be one." And now, in a few words, I will tell my readers how it happened that I have not for two years mentioned the name of my friend in these columns. The truth is Mr. Blogg, like thousands of others, held shares in certain companies, the Punjab Bank (limited), &c., which came to grief in the great panic, and involved him in liabilities which he was utterly unable to meet. Consequently he expatriated himself till his agent here had arranged matters for him, and got him released on his paying a fair composition. And here let me say that my friend was no speculator, but simply a bona fide investor. "So," said I, our hearty greetings being over, "I hear you have got free from your tormentors." "Yes, happily, free at last; but I shall carry the scars to my grave, my boy. But no matter; the less said of that the better. How goes the political world? You have had some strange work here since I left. A Radical Reform Bill from a Conservative Government; a Conservative Government overthrown by its own Reform Bill; a Radical Government with Bright in the Cabinet; a Quaker who goes to meeting on Sunday and to Court on Monday; is now sitting amongst 'the Friends,' and anon is chatting with Princes and Princesses. Egad! as I read all these strange doings in *Galignani*, they almost took my breath away. But now, dropping all this, what are the Lords going to do with the Irish Church Bill?" "That," said I, "is precisely what I was going to ask you." "Well, I have been in town only a week. But my opinion is they must pass the bill, and ought to pass it. Not that I like the bill. I stick to my old creed; but having deliberately assented to that Radical Reform Bill, of course, they must accept the consequences." "Having sown the wind," said I, "they must reap the whirlwind, eh?" "Exactly. Sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind. By Jove! that is good, and true too." "But, they say, they won't pass it." "I know they do. There's old Fire-the-Fagot Ruggles swears they will fight first. 'Ruggles,' said I to him, 'you talk like an old goose. What is the use of kicking against the pricks? You should have thought of all this when you talked about dishing the Whigs. You have dished yourselves, old boy; and it serves you right. Ah! you may make wry faces; but you will have to swallow the draught.'" "But will they really carry the second reading of the bill next week? They vowed they would not, last Saturday, at the Duke of Marlborough's." "Not exactly; no vote was taken, and I happen to know that, though the meeting was noisy, there were more objectors to Lord Derby's policy than the public are aware of." "But Lord Derby has since said they can throw out the bill by an adequate majority." "Yes, I know; but I have long since thought that Lord Derby has lost his head. I thought so when he suffered Dizzy to lead him by the nose in that Reform Bill business; and now I am sure he is not the man he was. And there are signs, too, that he has lost the sway which he once had over his party. I have heard that his fancied majority is fast melting away, and that it is doubtful whether he could get a majority. But suppose his whips can promise him a small majority, is it likely that he will in such case push a division? Why, he would be mad to do so. By-the-way, I heard to-day that, if Lord Bessborough, who is, you know, Government whip, should report that, with some dozen or twenty new peers, he could carry the bill, and Derby should be obstinate, they will be made next week. At all events, you may be pretty sure that by hook or by crook the bill will be got through the second reading next week. And now, dear Lounger, goodbye!" "I hope you were not hardly hit," said I, "by those dark scoundrels." "Don't mention it, my dear fellow; that way madness lies. But I have enough and to spare to give a friend whom you know a glass of capital claret when he calls; will you be good enough to put that down in your note-book?"

The Marquis of Salisbury seems to be scarcely up to time in theatrical matters. He is reported to have said the other night that he "disliked that melodramatic kind of legislation which resulted in a transformation-scene every few months." It is not within my knowledge that transformation-scenes are proper to melodrama. But perhaps his Lordship is misreported.

The *New York Herald*, it seems, thinks that "The Alabama question is not without danger to the internal peace of England, as it may lead to a conflict between the aristocratic and popular parties." How wonderfully well-informed the *New York Herald* must be as to English politics! Whatever "private griefs" there may be between the British people and the British aristocracy, your American contemporary may rest assured that there never will be a civil war in England about the Alabama question.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

## THE MAGAZINES.

In noticing an article in the *Cornhill* the other day, I said something of an utterly false and wanton review in the *Saturday* of a novel which was really a good book. The *Saturday* treated it with two columns of contempt, as the work of a man ignorant of good society, when it was—as, piqued by the *Saturday's* wantonness, I took the trouble to find out—the work of a well-born and accomplished lady, moving in the best circles. If some of my brethren of the press would have the moral courage to follow me in these matters, we should soon diminish the prestige of the *Saturday*, and reduce it to the level towards which it has now, for some time, been tending. Not a week passes in which some insolent piece of injustice is not committed in its columns, and it is high time publishers and others were made to understand that it is, with all its ability, one of the least trustworthy of the reviews. A Mr. Matthew Browne, in a book called "Chaucer's England," has, I am told, succeeded in hoaxing this august and amiable periodical. Perhaps he owed it a grudge, and therefore laid a trap or two for it. But, apart from the question of the hoax (of which, I hear, more will be said in due time) the *Saturday's* review of this gentleman's book is one mass of falsifications and blunders. Every journalist knows that when you send up a book for extract, the printer will not turn small letters into capitals unless you have the dishonesty to compel him to do it. In five cases the *Saturday*, as I had on examination, must have altered this author's text with a pencil before sending it to the printer for the ostensible "quotations." In other ways, too, the author's writing is deliberately falsified. The book has plenty of real faults—discursiveness, repetition, and so on; but, as I have said, the *Saturday's* review is a mass of untruths. Mr. Matthew Browne is supposed to know a joke when he sees it, and he has certainly not said in "Chaucer's England" that Chaucer was an Anglo-Saxon; that the word "manners" in William of Wykeham's famous motto meant ordinary "good manners;" that Comte was right in saying that "Feudalism" introduced the "worship of woman;" or that "the troubadour movement was an ecclesiastical one." These are a few of the impudent falsifications of the *Saturday*, and the presence of the last three, in particular, is ample proof that the reviewer—in his conceited haste to insult a writer who has presumably a good knowledge of the Middle Ages, and who is always cautious in the use of language—has not looked at the book with even ordinary care. At least a sixth of the 700 pages which this (much too long) book contains is devoted to saying, in one shape or another, that the whole of the Romantic movement was an anti-ecclesiastical one, forced into being by the Medieval Church.

I may add, in passing, that the *Saturday* objects to the word "feudality." The *Saturday* may object, but the word is a legitimate one; as legitimate as feudalism and infundation (which are good enough for Hallam), and as good as its exact French analogue *féodalité*.

The *Cornhill* this month is an excellent number. The paper on

"Idolatry" (signed "A Cynic") contains much that is true, but, unfortunately, it has a *flavour* which is not agreeable to some of us. One of the illustrations is not happy:—

M. Louis Blanc, who, as a Frenchman, should be free from the national bondage, complains gently of some of the sufferings he has undergone on this topic. Once, he says, he ventured to suggest to a party of Englishmen that it was not perfectly consistent in Hamlet to speak of "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns," just after he had had a long conversation with his father's ghost. M. Louis Blanc was instantly suppressed; the British lion was aroused within his hearers; and he was made to feel that he had committed the same sort of error as a Curate who should have defended Bishop Colenso to an orthodox Rector.

M. Louis Blanc had certainly no cause of complaint. Shakespeare is, for once, obviously right. The incorporeal ghost of a man, visiting the earth for a special purpose, at a special hour, and going back—ghost to ghost-land, as he came—is certainly not a traveller who has returned, solid humanity, as he went out, to his native land. But the article is a good one, as an "alternative," and well deserves attention.

*Kettledrum* contains an article about the Women's Club, or "Institute," in Newman-street, from which a passage or two may be acceptable:—

The rooms are open every day from ten in the morning to eleven at night, Sundays inclusive: breakfast, dinner, tea, and supper being supplied at prices that would startle the sybarites who lounge in the windows of the St. James-street palaces. There the girl-student, the artist, the teacher, girls and women of all classes, gather round the fire in the home-like rooms, in one of which they are free to receive what guests they please, under certain rules. The subscription for a member is five shillings a year; and the names of those who desire to enter, backed by some household or member of the committee, are simply proposed, and, if accepted, are passed. . . . If any gentleman of the press will call at the Women's Club he shall be satisfied that the beer is as he desires, "good and clear;" the tea, coffee, and chocolate excellent; the more substantial fare simple, and of the best quality; and these supplied at very low prices. A member can dine at from sixpence to twopenny; lunch for fourpence, and drink tea for threepence, in a comfortable, well-furnished room. If visitors take refreshment, the member by whom they are brought in pays threepence as a sort of preliminary fee. Intended, as the club is, to brighten the hours of those women who, without homes, are toiling in the midst of London, it is considered necessary that in one room gentlemen visitors should be allowed, where a father might see his daughter, a brother his sister—even a sweetheart the girl he loves. When I looked in there, about a fortnight since, an old gentleman, who had come up from the country, was taking tea with his daughter. Governesses, art-students, the young ladies in the large shops—these are chiefly the class from whose ranks the members of the Women's Club are recruited.

These sentences must be read as simple-heartedly as they are written. With my eye on one sentence (p. 376) in this article, and on several between p. 341 and p. 348, let me venture to express a most earnest hope that *Kettledrum* will maintain the character I once gave it in a certain particular, and keep clear of all praise of women at the expense of men, and that unpleasant hardness of tone, and that perpetual "why-don't-Government-put-a-stop-to-it" vein which is apt to be so prominent in the writing of the extreme Left.

From this journal, in which Miss Smedley writes so much, the transition is easy to a "Dramatic Sketch" by Miss Smedley in *Good Words*. In this sketch a young swell of great ability, with a "career" before him, gives it all up to grapple at first-hand with some of the forms of human suffering among the poor and ignorant. A noble fellow! But the suggestion of the little drama is open to attack. Every man must follow his highest impulse; but, though one may lawfully give up a career, one may not lawfully renounce a vocation. Does anybody suppose that Mr. Gladstone has done less good as a financier than he would have done as a city missionary or "Brother of the Poor"? Glad to welcome Anna Lætitia Waring, both in *Good Words* and in *Good Words for the Young*—the latter especially. Yet the "lesson" to the terrier is a clear failure. If the cat is to be left alone by the dog because her faults are natural to her, the terrier must be left alone by his mistress because his faults are natural to him. *Good Words for the Young* is a periodical which ought to have an enormous success. The pictures are very good; and Mr. Gilbert's "King George's Middy" and Mr. Macdonald's "At the Back of the North Wind" are beyond praise.

*Macmillan* for June is particularly good. There is a capital letter to Mr. Charles Eliot Norton on "International Copyright" (by Mr. Ruskin?). Mr. John Burnell Payne, in commencing a series of papers on "English Art," shows so much care and discrimination (upon points which may well be missed by all but the most attentive readers) that I hope the series will not be short. From Mr. Huxley's notes on the "Scientific Education" of the young I must quote one sentence:—

People talk of the difficulty of teaching young children simple science, and in the same breath insist upon their learning their Catechism, which contains propositions far harder to comprehend than anything in the educational course I have proposed. Again, I am incessantly told that we who advocate the introduction of science into schools make no allowance for the stupidity of the average boy or girl; but, in my belief, that stupidity, in nine cases out of ten, *fit, non nascitur*, and is developed by a long process of parental and pedagogic repression of the natural intellectual appetites, accompanied by a persistent attempt to create artificial ones for food which is not only tasteless, but essentially indigestible.

Most admirable words! May they have a long, vigorous, and effective life! But let me add something. The direct religious culture of the young mind is the business of the parents, chiefly of the mothers. If it is neglected by them, the duty devolves upon special religious instructors. But—and every reader of this column knows it has no sympathy with Professor Huxley's theological opinions—I am quite sure, speaking from most intimate knowledge of the young and much experience in tuition, that to mix up direct religious teaching with the ordinary course of "schooling" is as gross an educational blunder as can possibly be made.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The perpetual Grand Duchess of Gerolstein has once more asserted her sway over these conquered islands. Mdile Schneider again holds the boards of the St. James's, and (*mirabile dictu*!) genuine audiences fill that (ordinarily) deserted stronghold of the drama. How far this rush to the St. James's is to be attributed to M. Offenbach's pretty music, how far to the reputation of the actress, it is, perhaps, difficult to say; but there is no doubt that when the audiences are comfortably seated, and the opera begins, their respect for M. Offenbach gives way altogether to their admiration for his principal exponent. Many various opinions have been expressed concerning Mdile Schneider's performance of the famous "Grand Duchess;" but, however critics may differ in their estimate of her other qualities, there is no dispute whatever as to her self-possession. Self-possession, I think, Mdile, Schneider's most powerful charm. It is a charm that has no influence over me; but no dispassionate spectator can sit out the performance at the St. James's without at once perceiving that Mdile Schneider, as a singer, is nowhere compared with Mdile. Schneider as a cancan-dancer. It is best known to Mdile. Schneider why, whenever she is singing the famous sabre song, she thinks fit in the line—

Tu vas le mettre à ton côté,

to raise her foot until her leg is parallel with the stage on which she is standing. This action is simply a piece of gratuitous coarseness that would be soundly hissed if it were introduced by Miss Elise Holt, or other of her fraternity, into a Strand burlesque. It is impossible to deny that Mdile Schneider has much stage tact, and, of course, a consummate familiarity with the "business" of the part. She is also an expressive singer, although she has little or no voice; and she further gives evidence now and then of histrionic powers which, under judicious instruction and controlled by a sense of decency, would place her in a far higher position than that she now occupies. At the same time, it is impossible not to see that these good qualities are more than outweighed by the coarse insolent bearing of the actress. Mdile Schneider plays the part much more carelessly than she did three years ago. Now she has ears and eyes only for her own part in the piece: she is simply idle when any other person in the play has any position of prominence to fill. This is particularly evident

in the commencement of the second act, when she declares her passion for Fritz in the ambiguous words of the song "Dites lui." She sings this song in a voice thrilling with fervid love for the man she has promoted; but his reply to her passionate avowal is received by her with a passive indifference which nullifies the value of the song in which she declares her love. M. Dupuis, the original Fritz, is inimitable. His face and figure exactly suit him for the part of the big, burly, stolid, good-natured, handsome fool. His by-play in parts is overwrought—it is the caricature of a caricature; and in this respect he has certainly degenerated since he first played the part. Nevertheless, his performance is that of a genuine artist—an artist who has suffered by his surroundings, but not to such an extent as to obliterate altogether his truer artistic qualities. He is fairly well supported by the representatives of Paul, Boum, and Puck; but Boum, who sings well, is preposterously over-dressed, and acts with a dry humour which is strongly suggestive of the British Pantaloon.

## THE LATE LORD BROUGHTON.

SIXTY years ago there were among the students of Trinity College, Cambridge, two young men of good birth and more than average talents, fast and firm friends, and bound together by the tie of more than "advanced" Liberal opinions—George Gordon Byron and John Cam Hobhouse; the one already a peer of the realm, the other a wealthy country gentleman's eldest son. The peer (who was somewhat the younger) lived to become a poet; and died early in a foreign land, fighting in a chivalrous cause, on behalf of an oppressed nation whose fair land he had visited in company with his college friend; and that friend, John Cam Hobhouse, who also lived to become a peer, under the title of Lord Broughton, died on the 3rd inst., at the advanced age of eighty-three, having survived Lord Byron more than five-and-forty years.

John Cam Hobhouse, the eldest son of the late Sir Benjamin Hobhouse, the first Baronet, M.P., was born June 27, 1786, at Redland, near Bristol. His mother was Charlotte, daughter and heiress of Mr. Samuel Cam, of The Chantry, Wilts, from whom he derived his second Christian name. Like many of the Whig aristocracy of his age, he spent his early years at Westminster School; and in due course of time proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, where his intimacy with Byron helped to mould the destiny of his after life. In 1808 he took his degree; and early in the following year agreed to accompany his friend on a prolonged tour in the south of Europe. They left London on June 11, and, taking ship at Falmouth, sailed for Lisbon. Arrived in Portugal, they found the country at peace, the French troops having evacuated Lisbon after the decisive battle of Vimiera and the Convention of Cintra. They contrived to see something of Spain in spite of the war, visiting Seville, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, whence they sailed to Malta, and so on in the autumn to Ithaca and Albania. Passing on into Central Greece, they visited Parnassus, and Thebes, and Delphi, and Santa Maura, the old Leucadia. They spent the winter of 1809-10 at Athens, devoting themselves day by day to the study of its treasures of ancient art, and more especially of architecture and sculpture. In 1810 Hobhouse returned to England, not, however, until, in company with Byron, he had seen the interior of many of the ancient monasteries and convents of the East, and had made the acquaintance of Ali Pacha, of Janina, whom he describes in detail in his "Journey through Albania and Turkey." In the years 1813-14 he accompanied the allied armies in Germany, and was present at the battle of Dresden. It may be of interest to record here also the fact that, in the winter of 1816-17, when then had passed into somewhat riper manhood, the friends met again in Italy, and visited Venice and Rome in company. An admirable account of much that they saw on this occasion will be found in Hobhouse's "Notes to the Fourth Canto of Childe Harold," which, as every reader of Byron knows, is dedicated to Mr. Hobhouse; and copious extracts from these "Notes" are given by Mr. Murray among the foot-notes of his editions of that poem. The "Notes" arose from the following circumstance.

Mr. Hobhouse tells us that when, after some years absence, he rejoined Byron at La Mira, on the banks of the Brenta, in the summer of 1817, he found him busy on the fourth canto of "Childe Harold." He suggested several additions, with his reasons for thinking that the poem, as it then stood, failed to do justice to some parts of Italy. The result was the poem as it now appears, and the engagement of Mr. Hobhouse to write "Notes" for the whole canto. This work he performed chiefly at Venice, where he had the advantage of consulting the Ducal library. The "Notes" grew under his hands, and to such an extent that they were divided into two parts; one part was published with the poem—the rest, including a dissertation on the ruins of Rome and an essay on Italian architecture, appeared in a separate volume, under the title of "Historical Illustrations." The substance of both, recast and enlarged by subsequent visits to Italy and researches at home, appeared in 1859 in the shape of a work on Italy, published by Mr. Murray in two octavo volumes. They are full of topographical information, literary and artistic criticism, and anecdotal biography, and will always be read with interest by the scholar and antiquary.

Mr. Hobhouse's travels in Southern Europe during the exciting times when we were engaged in grappling with the great Napoleon no doubt went far to confirm and strengthen his hold on the liberal opinions he had imbibed as a child, and which he not only adopted as his own on reaching manhood, but also considerably developed; so that by the time he was thirty he was an advanced Radical. His father held to the more safe and moderate views of the younger Pitt, the Chairman of whose Committees he had been for many years; and he would have shrunk with horror from the idea of being classed among "downright and extravagant Radicals," side by side with his son, in the days of the Regency. But the son took up with more modern ideas and more popular sympathies; and, while quite a young man, took an active part in promoting the Liberal cause, though, for the most part, anonymously, in ephemeral pamphlets and in articles in the Whig reviews.

We now come to a matter which, though apparently trivial at the time, was fraught with important consequences to Mr. Hobhouse, and, indeed, may be said to have proved in its results the turning-point of his life by fairly committing him to the political career of a Radical. We allude to his publication, in 1816, of a work entitled "The Substance of some Letters written by an English Gentleman resident at Paris during the Last Reign of the Emperor Napoleon." It appeared in two octavo volumes, and without any author's name. In his preface, he says that, during his residence in Paris in the early summer of the previous year (1815), he was a spectator of events which, rightly told, were at variance with much that was published both in England and on the Continent by the agents and supporters of the Bourbon cause; and that, feeling certain the conclusion to be drawn from the real events was one in harmony with the only principles he had been taught to consider safe and honourable, he had sent from time to time to his friends a detailed account of the circumstances as they occurred.

The tone of Mr. Hobhouse in this work was very distasteful to the ruling powers at home; nor was it less offensive at Paris. At all events, we find it gravely recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1819, that a "French jury had recently convicted two individuals concerned in circulating Mr. Hobhouse's work, entitled 'The History of the Hundred Days,' in France, and thereby publishing an atrocious libel on the French Government." It appears that the translator was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and a fine of 1000*fr.*, while the printer and publisher were sentenced to the same fine and six months' imprisonment.

Mr. Hobhouse's stay in Paris during "the Hundred Days" led to further results. These were, first, his incarceration in Newgate; and, afterwards, his return for Westminster. A controversy arising out of the questions of the day led him to publish an anonymous pamphlet, entitled "A Defence of the People," and also another (in reply to Lord Erskine), which was long known and



quoted by its title of "The Trifling Mistake." In the latter occurs the following passage:—

If the Government try to deprive me of my inalienable right of meeting my fellow-countrymen by letting loose a soldier at me without the warning of an Act of Parliament I will resist him if I can; and if they do give me the warning of an Act of Parliament I will break it if I can. I consider the object exactly the same, the injustice equally calling for resistance. . . . I speak my own sentiments, and that of millions of Englishmen, when I say that I would not wish to survive the liberties of my country, and that Caesar's world is no world for me.

It must be owned that this language is strong; it would be deemed strong even nowadays; but, in the days of the Regency, and "when George the Third was King," it sounded passing strange to ears polite, whether on the Whig or Tory side of the House of Commons. No wonder, then, that it frightened St. Stephen's from its propriety. The Wynns, Fremantles, Goulburns, and Bankeses stood aghast when Mr. Hobhouse's words were read aloud at the table of the House; and Mr. W. Courtenay declared that the writer—who had generously come forward and avowed the authorship of the pamphlet—"recommended nothing short of rebellion," and ended by moving that he should be committed to Newgate by the Speaker's warrant. Even his friend the late Mr. Edward Ellice did not attempt to bring the question to a division, and the Speaker's warrant was issued forthwith. This was on Dec. 13, 1819. Next evening Mr. Hobhouse was arrested, while in company with his friend Mr. Michael Bruce, in New-street, Spring-gardens. A messenger from the House of Commons, acting as Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, produced the Speaker's warrant, and, in spite of his strong protest, carried him off in a hackney-coach to Newgate, where he saw him safely deposited the same evening. At first it was thought that he would have to share a cell with some convicted felons, but ultimately it was arranged that he should be lodged in the keeper's house, Mr. C. Williams-Wynn giving him distinct warning that, if he wrote or spoke so as to incur the displeasure of the House of Commons, he would move that he should be "put in close confinement." In Newgate accordingly he remained. At the end of December the House adjourned for the holidays, leaving Mr. Hobhouse to spend his Christmas, and New-Year's Day too, in Newgate. The death of the King, next month, called Parliament together, but only for three days, and in that brief space there was no time for either the Ministers or Mr. Courtenay to think of the pamphleteer who, like Joseph of old, lay forgotten in prison. In vain, too, did he apply to the Court of King's Bench for his discharge by habeas corpus. Chief Justice Abbott (afterwards Lord Tenterden) was a Tory to the backbone, a Judge of the Eldon school, so Hobhouse was ordered back to Newgate.

However, in due course came the day of his release; and from that day Mr. Hobhouse became not only a marked and noted character, but a popular favourite. While an Eldon and a Castlereagh were in power there was no greater passport than a State prosecution or commitment to the favour of the people. His cause was that of the oppressed and unrepresented multitude. In the ill-treatment which he had suffered they saw the best guarantee that he would become in very deed and in truth a "Tribune of the People." In a very few weeks his turn arrived; the doors of Newgate were opened, and he was speedily sent to Parliament by the electors of Westminster as the colleague of Sir Francis Burdett, who was then in the height of his glory.

But we must go back a little in our narrative here. In November, 1818, Sir Samuel Romilly died, and the Liberal electors of Westminster had made a strong effort to secure the vacant seat for Mr. Hobhouse, whose sole claim to their suffrages hitherto lay in his plain-spoken pamphlets on reform and other kindred subjects. He was a *novus homo*, however; his father, as a public man, was one of the most moderate of Whigs, and in no way inclined to Radical reforms or Radical reformers. He was not connected, either by blood or alliance, with the Russells, the Cavendishes, or the Foxes, or with any of the "great Whig families." This was against him. The Fox Club met for their annual dinner, and Lord Grey and Mr. J. G. Lambton (afterwards Earl of Durham) spoke disparagingly of the young pamphleteer as a man who was "in the habit of associating, for Radical purposes, with the lowest of the rabble." They resolved, accordingly, to start against him a safer and more highly-connected member of their own set; and such a person they found in Lord Melbourne's brother, Mr. George Lamb, who, after a poll of fifteen days' duration, was returned, by the aid chiefly of the Russells, Lambtons, and Cavendishes, by a majority of 4465 against 3861. Mr. Lamb, no doubt, caught some stray votes by alleging that he came forward as the representative of Sir S. Romilly's opinions; and Hobhouse lost votes by avowing himself in favour of annual Parliaments, and declaring on the hustings that he was "one of those extravagant Reformers at whom it was so common for the Whigs to point the finger of disdain." In the following year, however, he improved his position with the Westminster electors by publishing a sarcastic pamphlet, entitled "A Supplicatory Letter to Lord Castlereagh," in which he quoted largely from both ancient and modern history to prove that a man might be a reformer, and a strong reformer, without laying himself open to the charge of being a revolutionist. It was on this occasion that Sir F. Burdett subscribed £1000 in order to help forward his election, as, in his opinion, a far preferable colleague to Mr. Henry Hunt, or Mr. Kinnaird, or even Lord John Russell (all of whom had been suggested as eligible candidates); and it was on this occasion that he used those memorable words which have been so often quoted on the hustings—"I can conceive no stronger pledge for political integrity than such a warm heart as that of John Cam Hobhouse." Next year, at the general election, the tables were turned; and, after another long, severe, and expensive contest, he attained the object of his ambition, defeating Mr. George Lamb by some 450 votes.

After taking his seat as member for Westminster, it was not long before Mr. Hobhouse had an opportunity of putting his Radicalism to the test. A great meeting at Oldham, in Lancashire, arising out of the Reform agitation, had been put down by Lord Liverpool and his Cabinet with the strong hand; and in May, 1820, Mr. Hobhouse took up the case of the Oldham Liberals, and made a strong speech, in which he severely criticised and censured the conduct of the Ministry, on presenting a petition complaining of the outrages committed by the military. Lord Liverpool had a sufficient majority in the House to prevent Mr. Hobhouse from gaining at that time a party triumph, but not to prevent him from making a strong and decided impression. And this impression was strengthened by a speech he delivered during the same Session in support of Lord John Russell's bill for disfranchising Grampound for corruption—one of the first steps towards the Reform Bill of 1832. It is almost needless to add that, either by voice or by vote, he supported all the Liberal measures which marked the next ten or twelve years of our Parliamentary history, including the repeal of the Test Act, the Corporation Act, and the abolition of Roman Catholic disabilities. In 1826 he spoke strongly against the interference of peers in elections, contrasting in no measured terms the formula of the Constitution on the subject and the lessons taught by acknowledged facts in half the Parliamentary boroughs, and winding up by an urgent appeal to the lesser boroughmongers to follow the example of the Russells, the Vanes, the Cavendishes, and the Grosvenors, and give up their private interests to the common good. He also strongly censured the large number of "placemen" and pensioners in the House, and challenged the Secretaries of the Treasury, late and present, to deny that the Government was extensively carried on by the hope of places and other favours, which were only bribery disguised.

Mr. Hobhouse's reward came at last in the shape of office. In February, 1832, he was appointed Secretary for War by that very Lord Grey who fourteen years previously had affected to disdain the unknown and untried "Radical;" and he became a member of the same Administration with Lord Durham, who, as Mr. Lambton, had stirred heaven and earth to get his rival, Mr. Lamb, elected for Westminster. But so it is; the whirligig of time brings round its revenges, quietly but surely, if men will only wait. In April,

1833, Sir John Hobhouse (he had recently succeeded to his father's Baronetcy) was made Chief Secretary for Ireland, but failed to secure his re-election for Westminster, being beaten by Sir De Lacy Evans, whom a few months before he had defeated by a majority of three to one. In 1834 came the resignation of Earl Grey, and the reconstruction of the Whig Ministry under Lord Melbourne as its nominal head. Sir John Hobhouse was now appointed to the not very arduous post of Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and about the same time came in for Nottingham, where a vacancy was caused by Lord Duncannon's call to the Upper House. He retired, however, with his party in the autumn; and when, after the Duke of Wellington's and Sir Robert Peel's short interregnum, Lord Melbourne returned to power in the April of 1835, a place was found for Sir John Hobhouse as President of the Board of Control. Here his administrative talents found scope for action, and he continued to hold that responsible post while his party were in power—that is, till September, 1841, and again under Lord John Russell's Administration from 1846 to 1852. He was re-elected at Nottingham on every occasion down to 1847, when he was at the bottom of the poll, Mr. Walter being returned with Feargus O'Connor as his colleague. A seat, however, was speedily found for him in the convenient borough of Harwich, which has so often proved a refuge for the destitute; and for this small constituency Sir John Hobhouse was content to sit until he was raised to the Peerage, in the year 1851, as the reward of his Parliamentary and official services.

From and after his elevation to the Peerage, as Lord Broughton, of Broughton-Giffard, in the county of Wilts, he took less and less part in public affairs, and of late years rarely attended in the House of Lords, and still more rarely spoke. To the last he was fond of his classics, and the memories of his early literary tastes clung about him long after he had passed his threescore years and ten. He had cultivated the Muses when young; and, although the middle day of his life had been given to more active pursuits, he saw no reason why the Muses should not cheer and adorn the evening of his life. He had a large acquaintance, and read and wrote much; and there have been few persons of eminence in the present century with whom he had not constantly conversed or corresponded. It is to be hoped that his correspondence has been carefully preserved; if such be not the case, much interesting and curious information must have perished with him.

Lord Broughton married, July 28, 1828, Lady Julia Hay, youngest daughter of the late Marquis of Tweeddale, but was left a widower many years ago. By her he had three daughters, one of whom died unmarried, one is the wife of Colonel the Hon. Dudley Carleton, the other of the Hon. Strange Jocelyn. As he had no male issue the Peerage becomes extinct, but the Baronetcy passes to Mr. Charles Parry Hobhouse, of the Bengal Civil Service, elder son of his Lordship's next brother, the late Mr. Henry William Hobhouse, who sat as M.P. for Bath for a few months in 1841, and who married Mary Aune, daughter of the late Mr. John Palmer, of Calcutta.—*Times*.

## FINE ARTS.

### THE SUPPLEMENTARY EXHIBITION.

THE announcement of an exhibition of those pictures which were rejected by the Royal Academy was made some weeks ago, and at first was believed to be intended as a protest against the arbitrary power displayed by the committee who have the selection of the works which are displayed in Piccadilly, and are supposed to represent the advance of the art-schools of this country. It was pretty well known that there were grave reasons for complaint on the part of painters whose pictures were first accepted and afterwards left out of the exhibition, and neither artists nor the public could ever understand on what principle the selection was conducted. To provide a gallery where the rejected canvases could be seen by discriminating critics would, it was thought, at once convict the authorities in Piccadilly before the public tribunal. It would appear, however, that the exhibition of these pictures has no such object, if we are to accept the assurances of its promoters. At the gallery in New Bond-street, only three of the six rooms are devoted to the rejected artists; and (to borrow the motto of the licensed victuallers who have taken to selling tea) the object is *defensio, non provocatio*.

It is not too much to say, however, that some of the pictures to be seen in these rooms would have done honour to the National Exhibition; and we may, each of us, reserve to himself the right to ask on what ground they were refused a place there.

Of the landscapes there is less to be said than of the figure-subjects, most of them being rather coarse in execution; but there are some admirable exceptions, one of which is Mr. A. Cole's "Arundel Park" (64), a charming little bit of woodland; while another picture of the same sort is "Up Park" (154). Mr. Beavis sends "A Tough Bit of Road; Coast of Brittany" (20), in which the horses tugging up the hill are vigorously handled, and the atmospheric effect of the storm clearing off is capitally rendered. In "A Rest on the Stile" (105), Mr. E. J. Cobbett has succeeded in producing one of those fine, warmly-coloured pictures which are rarely finished with such skill as he displays; and Mr. J. Bostock, in his "Coming Home" (125), has happily combined figure and landscape. It is matter for regret that one of the sweetest pictures in the exhibition, "A Welsh Maiden—Morn" (127), has been so hung that it just misses the light required for its true appreciation. It is seldom that poetry is so suggestively fitted to art as the verse to the skylark quoted in the catalogue, and we can only hope, for the sake of their own reputation, that the selection committee of the Royal Academy did not intend to send Mr. J. Deffett Francis to the Supplementary Exhibition, but only lost him by an oversight.

"Gainsborough's Studies," by Mr. J. E. Soden; "A Competitive Examination," by Mr. W. Hemley; and "Petty Sessions," by Mr. H. Carter, are three capital character-pictures, well worth study, and each telling its story in a way that cannot fail to attract the attention of visitors to the gallery who care for drama as well as execution. In his sea-piece, "Stand by! Ready about!" (140), Mr. J. G. Naish has surely been led to imitate Hook, and has not followed him well. The picture, to use a sea phrase, is all "yawing," and the wave, in the trough of which the boat swings, is as solid as—well, as paint; and there are few more solid substances when it is not used skilfully. "An Unexpected Visitor" (166), by Mr. H. Carter, is a very effective picture. The girl who has come down with only a shawl thrown over her head to see somebody who has called, little dreams that the somebody is her gallant, who is only dimly visible behind the opening door. It may be hoped that in the twilight of that old room, with its dark arras-like walls, her plain attire will not be noticed, though, as we look at her a yard or two off, her swift, white figure seems to be walking "at" us, and is all the more perceptible because of the dim background. Mr. Hughes sends "An Incident in the Life of Paganini," depicting the story of the great musician stopping in the street to play on the fiddle of an orphan boy who had turned wandering minstrel to support his mother and brothers and sisters. It is forcibly painted, and will be one of the most attractive works in the rooms. Mr. T. Smallfield has chosen that scene from "The New-comers," in which Olive and her little boy are taken by Pendernis to Greyfriars, where the grand old Colonel has become a pensioner, and stands to say his simple grace after meat in the refectory. The story is touchingly retold, and though the whole tone of the picture is necessarily rather colourless, there is so much true feeling in it that it cannot fail to be interesting. With this we must close our preliminary notice of a very interesting gallery, which will probably remain an institution until the claims of the artists who are rejected for no faults of their performances come to be acknowledged. We must defer a notice of the other rooms until next week.

THE NONPAREIL RAFT, which crossed the Atlantic last year, is to tempt fortune in a second voyage.

## Literature.

*The Blackbird of Baden, and other Stories.* By ROBERT BLACK, M.A. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

The author of these stories informs us in his preface that he has "taken part in the preparation of two classical dictionaries, and has been engaged to some extent in the great cause of education, and, after all, he is 'still on the outside of Bedlam.'" Some people believe that Bedlam is the proper place for a considerable number of story-tellers who send out upon the world volume after volume of pernicious nonsense to the detriment of the rising generation; but if good sound wholesome writing be evidence of sanity, sore injustice would be done were Mr. Black ranked amongst the Bedlamites. "The Blackbird of Baden" and the other stories are distinguished by the touch of a master, who, in his desire to set forth rigorous examples of virtue, is apt now and again to caricature, in some degree, the natural developments of human passion. Seldom indeed has the tide of temptation been arrested in its mad career by the mere appearance of a Prayer Book, as we are told, in the story of "Two Turnings to the Right," actually occurred when a young clerical lover and a pretty barmaid were all alone at his lodgings. The deliverance is all the more wonderful when we take into consideration the highly susceptible nature of the rev. gentleman. The turning to the right has been effected: the temptation has been fairly overcome, and the pretty barmaid has been married to a respectable man, who is sadly given to dropping his "h's." Six long years have passed away; and yet, in a purely accidental encounter in a railway-carriage, his reverence betrays, in company of his old love, passion of the most desperate character. "One awful glance of recognition, and then we avoided as much as possible any meeting of the eyes. But oh! that first glance of recognition! If she felt as I felt, her heart must almost have knocked a passage through her ribs." Be it noted, gentle reader, that all this time the innocent husband is by the lady's side and his two pretty children on her knee, "I felt as I fancy men feel when they receive a shock which causes concussion of the brain. She touched me as she moved from the carriage, and I wondered whether she was conscious, as I was, of an electric current and a momentary loosening of the joints." After this it is satisfactory to read on to the end and discover that when the barmaid, previous to marriage, returned her clerical admirer's presents, she took good care to retain the Prayer Book whose fortunate appearance had, on a most critical occasion, proved the talisman of virtue.

In several of Mr. Black's stories the parson is favourably set forth as a being with passions like unto other men, but always a credit to the cloth, particularly so in the story of "The Pretty Butcheress," one of the cleverest of the series, the characters in which are forcibly drawn, and express themselves well in conformity with their situations. It is not worth while to develop the plots or describe the characters in the several tales. Readers will be better pleased if left to find out all this for themselves; but it may be mentioned that in Mr. Black's stories, while the old familiar touches of the dominie are apparent, you feel that the master is in rare good-humour, and telling you a lot of tales with an eye to your instruction as well as amusement.

*First Lessons in Ancient History.* For Young People. By the Rev. T. WOOLMER. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

If the young people of the present day do not make rapid progress in their studies, it can never be said that the aids and appliances for the acquirement of knowledge have been denied them. The only danger lies in the possibility that a too easy access to the Temple of Minerva may deaden curiosity, the natural mainspring of intellectual activity. Be that as it may, those who are engaged in the work of education strive more and more to make matters easy and pleasant for the student, frequently making for him little short cuts and royal roads, that, perhaps, lead him nowhere, yet serve very well for the purpose of trotting out the vanity of education and keeping up the appearance of intellectual progress. The Rev. T. Woolmer's "First Lessons in Ancient History" are for those "whose time and means of instruction are limited," and who may, if they please, for the small sum of one shilling, possess an epitome of ancient history from Nimrod to Constantine the Great. The scope of the reverend gentleman's compilation may be partly understood when it is stated that the light of revelation is brought to bear upon the doubtful legends of the old kingdoms of Assyria and Babylonia, from which it would appear that the Tower of Babel, or Babel, "was six hundred and sixty feet high," and that at the building thereof "that wonderful judgment of God, called the 'confusion of tongues' took place." It was of the utmost advantage to the Babylonian astronomers, "being used as an observatory." It is gratifying to know that when the world was deprived of the advantage of a universal language, it found some little compensation in astronomical discovery.

*The Child's Popular Fairy Tales.* Told for the Hundredth Time. By H. W. DULCKEN, Ph.D. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler.

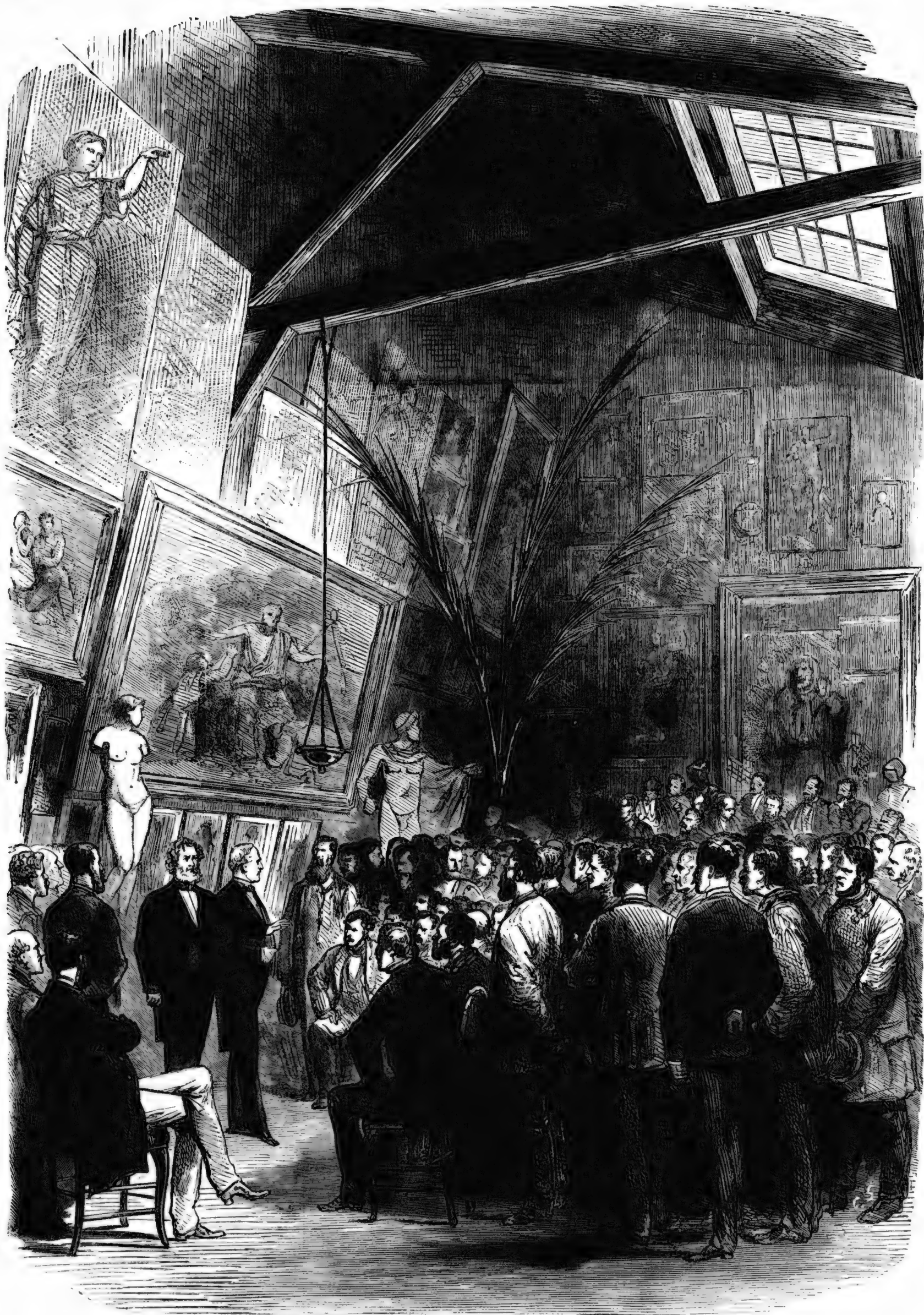
In relating the beautiful old fairy-tales for the hundredth time, Mr. Dulcken has marred several of them and not improved any. There is enough and to spare of burlesque and vulgarity without having it introduced into the nursery; and it is undeniable that the book before us, with its fourteen coloured plates and numerous woodcuts, would have been all the more acceptable to households if wanting these little peculiarities of our advanced civilisation. In the very beginning Merlin is introduced in the following unromantic fashion in search of a certain herb:—"It was for a most powerful charm, the object being twofold—firstly, to make a donkey play the pianoforte; and, secondly, to cure a schoolboy of putting his hands in his pockets and wearing out his trousers at the knees." He finds the herb. "It was called stycke, or by others cudgelle, and Merlin had always found it useful for donkeys and schoolboys."

The idea of associating Merlin with cruelty to animals is certainly original if not judicious; so is that of a cow eating thistles, which is duly related when the milky mother gobbles up Tom Thumb. When the "wee" things are poring over the pages of this pretty book, mamma or papa will be obliged to stand by and point out the errors of the editor, and that is surely a great pity.

*The Part-Singer: a Collection of Four-Part Songs, Sacred and Secular, with Pianoforte Accompaniment.* Edited by T. CRAMPTON. London: T. Pitman.

The secular songs in this collection are set to music by a variety of composers, ancient and modern, being mostly harmonised and arranged by the editor. It would be pleasant to record that he has perfectly succeeded in his task. His harmonisation of the National Anthem is decidedly on the verge of open warfare with the melody, as if his invention had been strained to produce something new, rather than being soothed and elevated by the native grandeur of the theme. Nor is it possible to commend the musical manipulation of the Scottish melodies. Here we have a more than ordinary misunderstanding evinced, and the result is anything but agreeable. Amongst the sacred pieces, seven are from the pen of the editor himself, and these serve to show that if he be not original, he has more sympathy with church music than that which, for the sake of classification, is called secular; although, perhaps, there be more devotion in the melody of "Ye banks and braes" than in many a popular anthem—say, for instance, any of Kent's—only one of which, fortunately, figures in the book under consideration. It speaks well for the musical taste of Mr. Crampton that he has nearly excluded the "Claribel" of anthems from his collection. One of the very best of the four-part songs is from the pen of Mr. R. Limpus. If Mr. Crampton will please to notice, he has made a mistake in the title of his fifth secular song. It is but trifling; still, it spoils the sense of the passage.





THE FRENCH ELECTIONS: MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE OF THE SEVENTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION OF PARIS.—SEE PAGE 372.

#### THE NATIONAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday afternoon the annual meeting of this association was held at the offices in Charing-cross—Lord Limerick in the chair. Among those present were Major-General M'Murdo, C.B., the first Inspector-General of the Volunteer Force; Colonel E. W. Harcourt, the Commandant of the Cinque Ports Artillery; Colonel Rae, of the first Cinque Ports Volunteer Artillery; Colonel H. Creed, of the first Middlesex Artillery; Captain Engelbach, Captain J. R. Macdonnell, and Captain J. L. Rutley. The noble chairman

congratulated the association upon its advanced and advancing position, as shown in the fact that, instead of being in debt, the association had so far turned the corner as to be able to invest in the funds. He reminded the members that a new plan was tried last year—that of compressing the whole business of the Shoeburyness contest meeting into one week, instead of spreading it over more days; and this, he announced, had been most successful in every way. There would be an additional force to compete this year, for a detachment of the Duke of Buckingham's Yeomanry Artillery

would attend as competitors for the many prizes to be given this year. There were to be changes in the council, it being proposed that Earl Vane should take the position of Earl Spencer, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; Colonel Milward, R.A., in the place of Captain Welby Pugin; Captain Engelbach in the place of Major-General Ormsby, R.A., deceased; Captain Macdonnell in the room of Major Fitzmaurice Scott, also deceased. It was decided at a recent meeting of the council that there could be no just cause for debarring commissioned officers from taking their places at



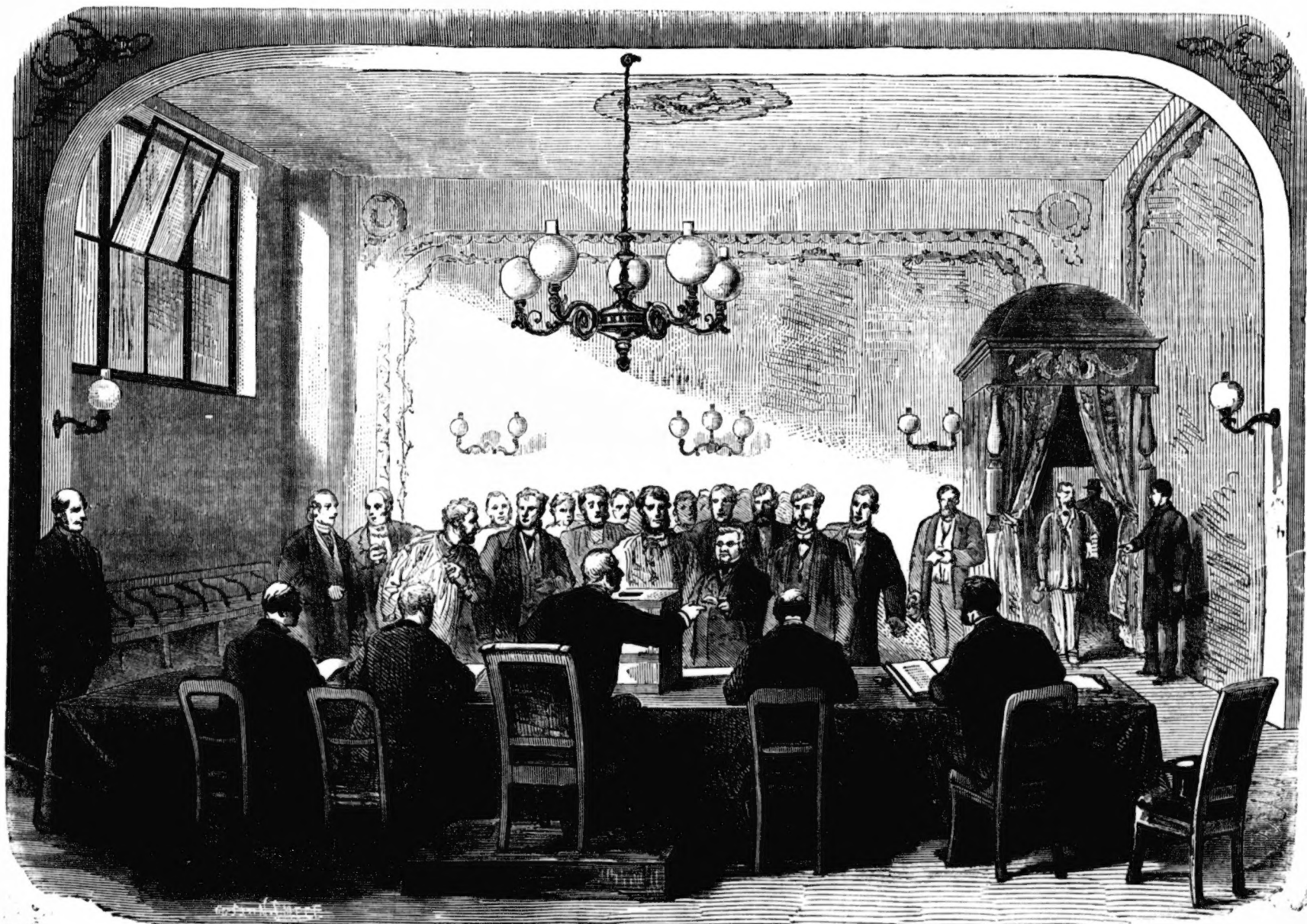


CARRYING THE ELECTORAL URNS TO THE MAIRIE OF THE ARRONDISSEMENT AFTER THE SCRUTINY.—SEE PAGE 372.

guns as members of competing detachments, provided that their names were sent in to the secretary at the time of the detachments being entered. It was furthermore decided that it appeared undesirable that a score which had not been verified by comparison with the score kept by the range party should be communicated to the detachments as they fired; the principle of reckoning comparative time in the case of ties between guns of different calibres was established, and it was determined that the scores should be invariably kept by non-commissioned officers of the Royal Artillery, under the superintendence of the officers in charge; lastly, the contingency of there being no hits at the running target was to be provided for by arranging that in such an event the detachment making the best single shot at a standing target 5 ft. by 5 ft., distant 1000 yards, with a 40-pounder Armstrong gun, should be considered the winner. Major-General M'Murdo moved the adoption of the report, and said, amid some laughter, that if

the association continued in prosperity it might save enough money to invest some in land in Ireland. He passed on to make some remarks with respect to the running-target to be shot at with Whitworth's gun, and he expressed a deep interest in all that concerned the volunteer force. The adoption of the report was seconded by Colonel Harcourt, and carried. It was then announced that the camp would open on Monday, Aug. 2, and that the order of proceedings would be as follows:—Tuesday, Aug. 3.—Prize 1, the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War's prize, value £25; prize 2, Captain Beveridge's prize, value £20; prize 3, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick's prize, value £10. Wednesday, Aug. 4.—Scotland's cup, challenge prize.—Prize 1, National Rifle Association prize (ten silver cups), value £50; prize 2, Countess Spencer's prize, value £20; prize 3, Duke of Cambridge's prize, value £10; prize 4, 2nd Middlesex Artillery prize, value £10. Thursday, Aug. 5.—Prize 1, her Majesty's

prize (ten silver cups), value £100 (to be competed for with 40-pounder Armstrong guns by all detachments passed in Armstrong gun drill by the Commandant); prize 2, Lords and Commons' prize (ten silver cups), value £40; prize 3, Prince of Wales's prize, value £21. Friday, Aug. 6.—Sir Shafto Adair's prize, challenge; Lord Granville's prize (highest average), value £10; 1st Kent Artillery prize (for highest aggregate, not being winner of any other prize), value £10; badges of the N. A. A. (To be competed for at a running target by the winning detachments). Saturday, Aug. 7.—Consolation prizes (open to all unsuccessful competitors), Messrs. Elkington's prize (silver cup to No. 1, and nine plated cups to the other members of the winning detachment), value £20; Messrs. Stewards' prize, value £10; Lord Longford's prize, value £10. After which the presentation of prizes by the Countess of Granville will be made. The meeting, after some conversation on details, voted thanks to the chairman, the treasurer, and secretary.



M. THIERS RECORDING HIS VOTE IN THE RUE ST. GEORGE'S.—SEE PAGE 372.



### OPERA AND CONCERTS.

SIGNOR CAGNONI'S "Don Bucefalo" has not been repeated. One representation was found enough for the work, which, in spite of the desire for novelty felt by our audiences, was not the sort of composition for an establishment of such importance as the Royal Italian Opera to bring out. The apparent wish on the part of the management to distinguish itself by the production of something new has been followed by a reaction, and until Thursday, when "La Gazza Lutra" was to have been played, with Madame Patti in the part of Ninetta, the performances consisted for seven consecutive nights of such familiar works as "Il Barbiere," "Lucia," "Faust," "La Traviata," and "Don Giovanni." The houses have been excellent, the attraction each evening being not so much the opera performed as the prima donna (Madame Patti or Mdlle. Nilsson) performing in it. One of Mdlle. Nilsson's stipulations on accepting an engagement at the Royal Italian Opera having been the production of the new opera "Hamlet" at a specified period, subscribers (says a contemporary) may look forward with something like assurance to hearing that much-talked-of work in the Italian language. Rumour gave out, moreover, that this *sine qua non* of Mdlle. Nilsson's might possibly lead to another novelty being included among the attractions of the season. "If Mdlle. Nilsson is to have a new opera expressly got up for her, why not Madame Adeline Patti?" Such, at any rate, is said to have been the reasoning of that popular artist; and few will feel disposed to deny its validity. The opera said to have been suggested by Madame Patti is the "Mignon" of M. Ambrose Thomas, who, we need scarcely add, is also the composer of "Hamlet." But, the season being already far advanced, the production of both these works seems problematical. The advantage to be derived from the amalgamation of the opera-houses remains to be shown. That nothing remarkable has yet come out of it is positive. The fusion of the companies made it necessary to discard certain members of each, inasmuch as it would be impossible to find suitable employment alike for every one of Mr. Mapleson's singers and for every one of Mr. Gye's. So that on each side the names of well-deserving favourites are missed—Signor Mario and Mr. (now Sir Michel) Costa on one side, Madame Trebelli and Signor Gassier on the other.

The operatic performances commenced at the Crystal Palace, on the concert-hall stage, seem to be attracting large audiences. The scheme includes English operas and translated versions of foreign works, which are to be given under the management of Mr. George Perren. As the time of commencement is three o'clock, these performances will doubtless be welcome to the large local population who desire to have opera within easy reach and at an early hour. The orchestra consists of the Crystal Palace band, and the chorus is selected from the former chorists of Her Majesty's Theatre, directed by Mr. Manns. During the first week (on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday) an English version of "La Sonnambula" was performed—the part of Amina by Miss Blanche Cole, a young lady of considerable promise, both as a vocalist and as a dramatic artist. Of so well-known a tenor as Mr. G. Perren it is scarcely necessary to say that he gives the music of Elvino with effect. Both he and Miss Cole were more than once recalled at the opening performance. The part of Count Rodolfo was filled by a Mr. R. Temple, and the opera appeared to give satisfaction to the audience. "The Bohemian Girl" and "Lucia di Lammermoor" were the operas of the past week.

Madame Arabella Goddard's second recital at St. James's Hall was, like the first, attended by a numerous audience, including many distinguished professors and amateurs of all classes and kinds. The programme was full of variety, and among the unusually large number of interesting pieces, few that were familiar, not one that was hackneyed, were to be found. A magnificent sonata, Op. 106, by Hummel, was one of the chief features of the concert; but equal attention and even more applause was bestowed on the presto in A major, from Mendelssohn's seven characteristic pieces. Our unrivalled pianist, whose style is as remarkable for power as for the most delicate gradations of expression, had abundant opportunities in the sonata for the display of her comprehensive talent; or, rather let us say—since Madame Goddard never thinks of the display of her own personal qualities—that Hummel's sonata makes a call upon all the highest faculties of a pianist, and that it received full justice at Madame Goddard's eloquent hands. The recital was full of interest from beginning to end.

At the annual dramatic soirée of the New Philharmonic Society, on the 23rd, Mendelssohn's operetta, "Son and Stranger," is to be the feature of the evening. Mdlle. Rose Hersee is principal soprano, and Professor Wyld conducts the orchestra.

Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and a selection, will be given at the last performance this season by the National Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin, on Wednesday next, at Exeter Hall. Miss Arabella Smyth, Miss Lucy Franklin, and Mr. Lander are among the principal vocalists engaged. In the selection will be included "The Lord is a Man of War," sung by nearly three hundred male voices, which was favourably received at the recent performance of "Israel in Egypt" by this society. A great choral festival of 5000 voices under Mr. Martin's direction will be held in the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, on Saturday, June 26.

Miss Kate Roberts, the accomplished young pianiste, and Mr. Ellis Roberts, harpist to the Prince of Wales, will have a benefit concert, at St. George's Hall, next Tuesday afternoon, when they will be assisted by Miss Edith Wynne, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and other popular singers and instrumentalists.

The Queen announces that Sir Michael Costa's national hymn for Prussia has been composed, and was performed in the presence of the Prussian Royal family during Sir M. Costa's recent visit to Berlin. So gratified, adds the Queen, was the King of Prussia with the composition that his Majesty, the day after the hearing of the work, conferred on Sir Michael the cross of the Red Eagle of the third class—that is, he was made officer of the order at once. The national hymn will be executed, with full orchestral and choral forces, at the next visit of Sir Michael Costa to Berlin, which will be towards the close of the year, when his "Eli" will be performed in the Prussian capital for the first time, shortly after the production of the German adaptation of "Naaman" at Stuttgart, where "Eli" was heard last November, with such signal success.

A monument is about to be erected in the city of Warsaw to F. Chopin. Count Berg and Prince Orloff have headed a public subscription set on foot for the purpose of raising the necessary sum. The Governor of Warsaw has entrusted the execution of the monument to M. Ciprian Godebski, the son-in-law of Servais, the violinist. An "Aurora" by M. Godebski created a very favourable impression at the Paris Exhibition.

THE ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE.—A grand bazaar in aid of the building fund of this institution was opened, on Wednesday morning, in the Royal Horticultural Gardens, South Kensington. Articles of great value were offered for sale, and at one of the stalls there were presents of china, and pictures from the Emperor and Empress of the French and the Crown Princess of Prussia. A military band and the natural beauty of the gardens increased the attractions of the show, which is to remain open till June 12. Since the formation of the charity, in 1864, for the reception of orphan infants of "poor but respectable persons," success, properly described as unexampled, has crowned the efforts of the promoters. In 1866 freehold land was purchased for the sum of £3367 17s. 3d., and upon this land eight cottages have been erected, each to hold twenty-five infants, with their nurses. Seven of them have been built at the expense of benevolent individuals or by special subscriptions, at the cost of £600 each. The remaining one has been erected, but remains yet to be appropriated by some generous friend of the orphan. The entire plan is intended to accommodate 400 infants. At the present time the charity is greatly in want of funds to meet existing liabilities, as well as to provide for the increasing number of destitute infant orphans which are presented for admission. There are vacancies for one hundred infants to make up the 200 for whom accommodation is provided. The committee are desirous of adding 200 more as soon as funds are forthcoming. Any lady or gentleman can provide a home for twenty-five infants by erecting and furnishing one of the cottages, at the cost of £700, and maintain its inmates for £500 a year. The offices of the orphanage are at 50, Ludgate-hill.

### SOLDIERS AT ELECTIONS.

At the sitting on Tuesday of the Committee of the House of Commons charged with an inquiry into the mode of conducting Parliamentary and municipal elections, General M'Murdo was examined in reference to the employment of troops in Ireland at elections. He stated, in answer to The O'Connor Don, that troops were frequently employed to escort voters to the poll. In the last election witness received particular instructions from Lord Strathnairn to send an escort to guard a number of voters at the Dublin election. An escort was sent, but they met no resistance, and, in fact, he did not think the troops were required to repel any attack. Possibly the impression might have been that it was the voters themselves who were not to be depended upon. He had known a case where a number of voters had been collected and kept together for several days, and then escorted to the poll by dragoons. The dragoons were not used to collect the voters. The voters under escort were generally regarded by the officers in command in the light of prisoners. Witness had himself, in orders he had given, directed that the voters should be warned to keep their places, in case of an attack, to avoid being mistaken for rioters. It was not an uncommon thing for them to get away if they had the opportunity. The present system of employing soldiers armed with deadly weapons was as remarkable for its stupidity as for its cruelty, because it was well known that the weapons would not be used except in the most extreme necessity, and, the mobs knowing this, attacked the soldiers with an impunity they would not venture on if the soldiers were armed merely with sticks, which they might use in case of collision with a crowd. At the last election Ireland might be said to have been in military occupation, the soldiery being distributed over the country as if it were in a state of insurrection. In reply to the question what remedy he would recommend for the existing system, witness stated that, considering the employment of troops in the manner he had described to be a violation of the principle of freedom of election, he would recommend that such employment of the troops should be abolished; and he would also recommend that the extended franchise should, for the protection of the voter, be accompanied by the ballot. He thought that the ballot would obviate the necessity for the employment of the military, while it would protect the voters from the conflicting influences by which they were now coerced. It was very undesirable that the military should in these matters be brought into collision with the people. Witness was of opinion that if on the occasion of the recent riot at Mold the soldiers had simply been armed with quarter-staves, there would have been no loss of life, and the disturbances would have been quelled much easier than they were.

In reply to questions by Mr. Bright, the witness said it was known in Ireland that the majority of the voters who were escorted to the poll went there to vote as their landlords wished them. Witness believed that under the ballot the tenants would vote as they pleased, and that there would be no occasion for escort. He would recommend that the troops should only be employed in Ireland as they were in England—viz., to preserve the peace—and that the system of resorting to the assistance of the military in escorting voters to the poll should be discontinued. When an attack was made upon an escorting party it was confined to the escort, in order that during the confusion the voters might jump off the cars and get away.

By Mr. Villiers.—In the case of a soldier who had recently been tried for having killed a man at Drogheda, he was tried as a citizen, and not as a soldier. The orders he had received from his commanding officer were never referred to during the trial; and when the Judge asked why soldiers were employed, the answer given was that they were readier, on account of their organisation, than civilians would be. The soldiers did not like to be employed on this kind of service. Some of them became perfectly frantic, and would ask, "Are we brought here to be killed?" He had seen a company which had been ill-used at Drogheda, and more than half the men had cuts and bruises, while out of sixty-four rifles with which they were armed, forty-nine were more or less injured.

In reply to Mr. Ward Hunt, witness stated that the voters were under two counter influences—the landlords and the priests. If the military escorts were not employed, the voters would not be got to go to the poll.

By Mr. Hardy.—After a voter was in charge of the escort, the commanding officer would not allow him to get away.

Assuming that the voters require to be protected in going to the poll, the military are almost essential?—I would not have the military employed at all.

That is your moral opinion. But if there be an organised mob for the purpose of preventing voters going freely to vote, is it necessary to have military to meet that organisation?—No doubt of it.

By Mr. Whitbread.—I know of no case in which a voter has expressed a wish to leave the convey and that wish has been refused, nor have I heard of any case of that kind.

By the Chairman.—The views I have expressed with respect to the escort of voters are generally entertained by officers of the Army. They think it a service on which the troops ought not to be employed.

Mr. Bright: I infer from your evidence that you prefer the influence of the priest to that of the landlord in Ireland?—Yes; you cannot have the influence of the landlord without that of the priest. There is a conflicting influence exercised upon the tenant.

Do you suppose that the existence of intimidation or coercion on the part of the landlord is the cause in many cases of the influence exercised by the priest?—The influence of the priest is exercised to counteract that of the landlord.

I understand your opinion to be that if you had the ballot the illegitimate influence of the landlord would be destroyed. Do you think that state of things would tend greatly to lessen the influence of the priests?—It would make it less called for, and the priest would not meddle so much in politics as he does at the present time.

THE NORFOLK CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE, at a meeting last Saturday, adopted a resolution (by 21 to 11) calling upon the Legislature to remove hares and rabbits from the operation of the game laws.

THE FRENCH ATLANTIC CABLE.—The whole of the French Atlantic Submarine Cable has been shipped on board the Great Eastern at Sheerness, and on Thursday last a grand banquet was given on board in celebration of the event. As soon as the Great Eastern has completed the task of laying this cable she will return to Sheerness and commence preparations for receiving the Anglo-Indian Cable, which is intended to be laid between Suez, Aden, and Bombay, and is of exactly the same length as the French Atlantic cable—viz., 3250 miles. It is also being made by the same firm, the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—RESUSCITATION OF THE REFORM LEAGUE.—In view of the alleged determination of the majority of the Lords to throw out the Irish Church Bill on the second reading, the members of several metropolitan branches of the recently-dissolved Reform League are busy in the work of reorganising those bodies for the purpose of carrying on an agitation in favour of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, and, it is said, of the abolition of the House of Lords. The members of the old Holborn branch of the Reform League, which during the Reform agitation took a prominent part in the Hyde Park, Trafalgar-square, Clerkenwell-green, and Beaufort-grounds demonstrations, are already making arrangements for holding an open-air meeting, either in Hyde Park or Trafalgar-square, to "denounce the conduct of the House of Lords with reference to the Irish Church Bill, which has been carried by the representatives of the people by such large majorities." In the East-End, Reform League branches which took an active part in the Tower Hamlets and Hackney elections, in the interest of Mr. E. Beales and Colonel Dickon respectively, are being reorganised with the same object as that which the Holborn branch has in view; and in the West-End, and at the south side of the metropolis the old league branches are rapidly starting into existence. A general desire has been expressed amongst the members of the metropolitan branches for the reconstruction of the Central Council of the Reform League, and that Mr. Edmond Beales should again fill the office of president, so that the agitation against the existence of the Irish Church and of the House of Lords should, as in the case of Reform, be directed by the central body sitting at the Adelphi. It is said to be extremely doubtful, however, whether Mr. Beales will again undertake the duties of president of the league.

### AID FOR ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

A PUBLIC meeting in aid of this hospital and to enable the governors to preserve and extend the efficiency of the charity was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, last Saturday afternoon. The large room on the ground floor was crowded to excess, and there was a large attendance of ladies. The chair was taken by the Duke of Devonshire, supported by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the Archbishop of York, the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Grafton, the Earl of Cadogan, the Earl of Bessborough, the Bishops of London, Oxford, and Peterborough, Archbishop Manning, Lords Penrhyn and Cairns, the Hon. T. Ashburnham, Sir John Harrington, Baron Alfred Rothschild; Mr. Gathorne Hardy, M.P.; Mr. J. A. Smith, M.P., &c. Letters of apology were read on behalf of the Prince of Wales, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Earl Radnor, Earl Grosvenor, and others.

The noble chairman dwelt on the value of the institution and on the unsatisfactory position of its funds. In the absence of public support, the expenditure has recently exceeded the annual receipts so far that the governors have had no alternative but to fall back on the invested property; and this, notwithstanding the fact that the average working expenditure is below that of other metropolitan hospitals, the cost of each bed amounting to about £14 a year. His Grace, in urging a public support commensurate with the wealth of the district, mentioned that the liberal offer has been made by Mr. Garrell of £100 a year for five years if five other persons will each contribute the same amount.

The Duke of Cambridge, in moving the first resolution, went into some history of the charity. It was instituted in 1733, and a notion may be formed of its use in the alleviation of human suffering from the fact that in the 126 years which have passed 564,644 patients have been treated, or an average of 4481 a year. As the institution largely increased with the progress of time, so had its requirements. From Jan. 1, 1859, to Dec. 31, 1868, being ten years, the numbers have been 186,943, or 18,694 per year. The ordinary receipts in 1858 were £9855, and the expenditure £15,049, the patients being 3815 in and 9969 out. In the last year, 1868, the ordinary receipts were £11,760, and the expenditure £19,083—the patients being 3810 in, and 17,577 out. The deficiency last year was £7323. In this unfortunate difficulty the governors were compelled to have recourse to the invested property of the hospital, and, unless there should be a considerable immediate increase in donations, subscriptions, or bequests they would be compelled to close some of the wards and otherwise reduce the number of patients. His Royal Highness moved, "That St. George's Hospital is a public institution which confers extensive and important benefits upon the poorer inhabitants of the metropolis; and that any interruption to its career of active usefulness would be a calamity deeply to be deplored."

The resolution was seconded by the Archbishop of York, and, as were the others, carried by acclamation.

The Bishop of Oxford, in a terse, powerful appeal for public support as a Christian duty, moved a resolution which, after setting forth the fact that increased calls on the resources of the hospital have rendered reduction of the reserve fund unavoidable, declared that the present rate of expenditure cannot be continued without fresh means, and that unless the income be increased the benefits conferred by the hospital on the poorer classes of the population must be diminished.

Lord Cairns, in seconding the resolution, said it would be a scandal and a lasting reproach to find such an institution as St. George's Hospital, in one of the most wealthy districts of the metropolis, forced to close its doors against the claims of suffering humanity. The sale of stock and invested property to meet the current expenditure has amounted to about £4257 per annum for the last ten years; but in 1868 it amounted to £7248, and, of course, this not only diminishes the fixed capital, but, by also reducing the income, necessitates a larger sale every year. Unless, therefore, there is a considerable increase in the funds, it will be imperative on the governors to reduce very largely the benefits now conferred on the public, seeing that the invested property, which did not exceed £100,000, must yield but a narrow income for the support of so extensive an institution. When we look to the wealth that has grown around this hospital, it seemed incredible that the annual subscriptions should not exceed £600 a year. He believed, however, that it was ignorance rather than indisposition on the part of the public. He believed that the facts now stated only required to be made known, not only to preserve but to increase the efficiency of this valuable institution.

The Bishop of Peterborough moved "That the increase of buildings in the neighbourhood and in the surrounding districts, containing the residences of probably the wealthiest population in the world, has not produced that increase in the resources of this important charity which might have been expected." The right rev. prelate, after humorous allusion to the force of the exhortatory and preaching machinery brought together on this occasion, recited a story from Jewish tradition to show the active and spontaneous spirit of charity which prevailed amongst the chosen people, and trusted that the time would come when the vital force of charity would prevail amongst Christians, so as to obviate the necessity of charity sermons.

Baron Alfred Rothschild seconded the resolution. Mr. Gathorne Hardy, M.P., in a vigorous address, called on the public of this great and wealthy district of the metropolis, by a liberal subscription, to preserve an invaluable institution. He moved "That every exertion be made to excite public liberality on behalf of this charity, in order that the governors may be enabled to continue their useful labours in the relief of the sick poor."

Archbishop Manning, who was received with much applause, illustrated the charitable uses of the hospital by some touching details of his own experience while visiting the sick and destitute in its wards. While he agreed with the right hon. gentleman that subscriptions are what are immediately required, he would have the charitable also bear in mind the injunction of an old writer, in their wills to remember Christ. How few of us in making our bequests think of that sacred name. He concurred entirely in the remarks of the Bishop of Peterborough, and, if he had any wish to enter into rivalry with the right rev. prelate, it would be for the happiness of preaching the very last charity sermon.

The proceedings were terminated by a vote of thanks, on the motion of Lord Penrhyn, seconded by Mr. Abel Smith, to the noble chairman for presiding, and to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge for his services on the occasion.

THE GRAND PRIZE OF PARIS.—The Grand Prix de Paris, which was won on Sunday by Glaneur, a French horse, was instituted in 1863. The following is the list of the winning horses since that year, there being three English and four French:—1863, The Ranger; owner, Mr. Savile. 1864, Vermouth; owner, M. Delamarre. 1865, Gladia; owner, Count de Lagrange. 1866, Fervacques; owner, M. Montgomery. 1867, Ceylon; owner, the Duke of Beaufort. 1868, The Earl; owner, the Marquis of Hastings. 1869, Glaneur; owner, M. Lupin.

CONSTITUTION OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—An analysis of the rolls of the Peerage shows that, of far from the "descendants of the Runnymede Barons" being numerously represented in the House of Lords, only three peerages of the thirteenth century survive. There are four peerages of the fourteenth century, seven of the fifteenth, twelve of the sixteenth, thirty-five of the seventeenth, ninety-five of the eighteenth, and 233 of the nineteenth. The new patents issued since Earl Grey's accession to power in 1830 are 163 in number, and of these 123 were created by Liberal, and forty by Conservative Governments.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL SIR GEORGE LAMBERT.—Last Saturday evening this venerable Admiral died suddenly in the billiard-room of the United Service Club, Pall-mall, while in the act of looking at two members playing. The deceased Admiral entered the Navy in 1809. He attended the expedition to the Walcheren, co-operated in the defence of Cadix in 1810, and was present at the fall of Flume, Trieste, and other places in the Adriatic in 1813. He was made a Lieutenant in 1815, Commander in 1822, and advanced to post rank in 1825. He served many years on the East and West Indian stations, and performed many valuable services during the operations in the Irrawaddy, in the greater part of which he commanded the naval forces. He received the thanks of the Governor-General of India in council "for the vigour, perseverance, skill, and judgment displayed by him during the war with Burmah."



[illegible]



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By order, W. J. COKERILL, Secretary.

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